FBIS DAILY REPORT CONTENTS

Soviet Union

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INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

DISARMAMENT/START/MBFR

Chernenko Replies to PRAVDA on Arms Race AA 1
[PRAVDA 9 Apr]
U.S. Senators To Propose Bill on SALT Treaties AA 4
U.S. Space Militarization Plans Castigated AA 4
[Vinogradov in KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 6 Apr]
U.S. Militarization of Space Efforts 'Doomed' AA 7

COMMUNIST RELATIONS

Bloc Foreign Ministers To Meet 2d Half of April BB 1
CEMA Machine-Building Panel Meets in Moscow BB 1
[IZVESTIYA [illegible] Apr]
Official on CEMA Atomic Power Cooperation BB 1
[Ovchinnikov]

WORLD & REGIONAL ISSUES

Weekly 'International Observers Roundtable' CC 1
[Andrianov, Volskiy, Nekrasov]
Chernenko on Peace Stance CC 1
U.S. Missile Deployment CC 1
NATO Cohesion; Japanese Ties CC 3
U.S. Mideast Involvement CC 4
U.S. 'Terrorism' in C. America CC 5
USSR-Indonesian Relations CC 6
U.S.-ASEAN Cooperation CC 6
'International Situation: Questions & Answers' CC 7
[Kachanov, Shishkin, Kovalev]
Arms Race, Peace Appeals CC 7
Monitoring CW Ban CC 9
U.S. Election Campaign, Issues CC 10
Trilateral Commission Session CC 11
Saudi Arabian Policies CC 12
Bogomolov Calls For East-West Cooperation CC 12
[Bratislava PRAVDA 4 Apr]
PRAVDA Cites Turkish Press on NATO Cesme Session CC 14
[Filippov, 6 Apr]
Troyanovskiy Speaks at UN Debate on Nicaragua CC 15
[Tolkunov in PRAVDA 5 Apr]

UNITED STATES & CANADA

Reagan Foreign Policy Georgetown Speech Evaluated A 1
[PRAVDA 9 Apr]
'Railed' Against Congressmen A 2
Reagan Calls for Stockpiling Chemical Weapons A 3

Bush Accused of Falsehoods on CW Ban [Serov] A 3
U.S. Begins Chemical Weapons Modernization [Mikheyev] A 4
U.S. Soldiers Receive Chemical Warfare Training [Mikheyev] A 4
Cruise Missile Tests, Development Noted A 5
[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 6 Apr]
Test Launch of Minuteman Missiles Reported A 5
U.S. Space Shuttle Challenger Launched A 5

NORTHEAST ASIA

Soviet Embassy in Tokyo Denies Espionage Charge C 1
[Vykhukhalev]
U.S. Fails To 'Wrest' Japan Trade Concessions C 1
[Knyazkov]

SOUTH ASIA

Karmal Extols DRA's Economic, Political Progress D 1
[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 6 Apr]
Afghan National Fatherland Front Condemns U.S. D 1
CIA Said Behind Drug Traffic in Afghanistan D 1
[Mikheyev]
Pakistan Neighbors Fear U.S. Base Plans D 2
[Korolev]
Commodity Agreement Signed With Pakistan [Karachi] D 3

SOUTHEAST ASIA & PACIFIC

SRV Denounces PRC 'Armed Provocation' at Border E 1
[PRAVDA 7 Apr]
PRK Rejects Thai Claim of PRK, SRV 'Incursions' E 1
[PRAVDA 5 Apr]
Placing Thailand in U.S. Orbit Wickham Trip Aim E 1
[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 6 Apr]

WESTERN EUROPE

Soviet-UK Trade, Economic Relations Outlined G 1
[Pomerantsev in SELSKAYA ZHIZN 8 Apr]
FRG Antimissile Movement, Debates Examined G 2
[Yakhontov in PRAVDA 6 Apr]
USSR-Netherlands Shipping Panel Signs Protocol G 5
[IZVESTIYA 6 Apr]
End of Swedish Sub Search Linked to U.S. Sub Tests G 5
[Kovalev]
NATO 'Test Runs' [Mikheyev] G 6
CPSU Delegation Returns From Norway's CP Congress G 7
[PRAVDA 5 Apr]

Finnish Premier Sorsa Interviewed on USSR Ties G 7
[SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA 5 Apr]
IZVESTIYA Covers USSR-Finnish Treaty Jubilee G 8
[Ivanov, 6 Apr]

MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA

Soviet Naval Squadron To Visit Libya 10-14 Apr H 1
King Husayn Calls for Soviet Role in Mideast H 1
USSR, Egypt Expected To Resume Relations [KUNA] H 1
Sturua on 5th Anniversary of Camp David H 1
[IZVESTIYA 5 Apr]
U.S.-Israeli Exercises Threat to Syria H 3
[Korshunov in IZVESTIYA 6 Apr]
ADF on State of Alert Following Israeli Remarks H 3
[Zlatorunskiy]
New Campaign of Threats [Rassidin] H 4
Addition to KUNA on Brutents Warning to Israel H 5
PRAVDA Reports Brutents-Al-Jumayyil Meeting [5 Apr] H 6
Moscow Reports Brutents Contacts in Lebanon H 6
[Popov]
Volgin Assesses Lausanne Conference Results H 7
[SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA 5 Apr]
Iraq, Iran Report Intense Fighting on Front H 8

SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

Leaders Greet Mengistu on Ethiopian Victory Day J 1
[PRAVDA 6 Apr]
6 Apr Coup Attempt in Cameroon Reported J 1
France Expected To Expand Involvement in Chad J 1
[Kovalenko in IZVESTIYA 6 Apr]
Guinean Situation Gradually Normalizing J 2
[PRAVDA 6 Apr]

LATIN AMERICA & CARIBBEAN

PRAVDA Editorial Article on Central America [8 Apr] K 1

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

POLITICAL & SOCIAL DEVELOPMENTS

Registration of Supreme Soviet Deputies Begins R 1
Politburo Discusses Foreign, Domestic Issues R 1
Death of Aircraft Designer Antonov Announced R 2
Antonov's Achievements Enumerated R 2
Signatories to Obituary Listed R 2
[PRAVDA 6 Apr]
Shcherbitskiy Pays Last Respects to Antonov R 3
Armenian Supreme Soviet Holds Session R 3
[SOVETAKAN AYASTAN 29 Mar]
Tikhonov, Aliyev, Others Visit Exhibition R 5
[PRAVDA 5 Apr]
Tikhonov Visits Moscow Agricultural Exhibition R 5
CPSU Congratulates Builders of Chemical Complex R 6
[PRAVDA 6 Apr]

Vorotnikov, Demichev, Zimyanin Attend Soiree R 6
Forestry Committee Head Vorobyev Retires R 6
[PRAVDA 6 Apr]

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS

Neporozhniy Views Power Generation Program S 1
Urengoy-Center Pipeline Work Progressing S 1
Tbilisi Hosts Business Club; Shortcomings Noted S 2
[PRAVDA 2 Apr]
Gosplan Official Calls for Better Use of Gas S 2
[EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA No 13]

SCIENTIFIC AFFAIRS

Further Reportage on Soviet-Indian Space Mission U 1
Crew Conducts Experiments U 1
More Experiments Listed U 1
Second Day in Space Ends U 2
Cosmonauts Answer Questions U 3
Details of Photography U 4
'Minor Snag' Corrected [Delhi] U 5
Midpoint of Mission U 5
Briefs: Polar Drifting Research Stations U 6

MILITARY DEVELOPMENTS

Reportage on 8 Apr Air Defense Forces Day V 1
Koldunov Interview V 1
[PRAVDA 8 Apr]
Koldunov, Others at Meeting V 2
[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 7 Apr]
Arctic Defense Tasks Reported V 3
[TRUD 7 Apr]
Chesnokov Lauds Troops V 4
Maltsev Cites Capabilities V 4
Moskvitelev Praises Service V 6
[SELSKAYA ZHIZN 8 Apr]

CHERNENKO REPLIES TO PRAVDA ON ARMS RACE

PM081944 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 9 Apr 84 First Edition p 1

["K.U. Chernenko's Answers to Questions from the Newspaper PRAVDA"]

[Text] Question: What is your assessment of the situation in the world at the present moment? In particular, are there any signs of positive changes in the policy of the United States of America?

Answer: Alas, the situation in the world is not improving. It remains very dangerous. And this is explained by the U.S. Administration's continued gamble on military force, on the attainment of military superiority, on the imposition of its order of things on other peoples. This was confirmed once again by President Reagan's recent speech at Georgetown University.

Even if, sometimes, peace-loving rhetoric is heard from Washington, it is impossible, however hard one tries, to discern behind it even the slightest signs of readiness to back up these words with practical deeds. In other words, the introduction of new words does not mean a new policy.

Let us turn to such a cardinal problem as ending the nuclear arms race. Maybe the people in the White House have realized the danger and hopelessness [besperspektivnost] of this race and began to show restraint? Nothing of the sort. On the contrary, the fulfillment of ever new programs of creating and deploying nuclear weapons is being accelerated in the United States. The deployment of American nuclear missiles in Western Europe is continuing as well. All this is being done to break, one way or another, the existing parity of forces.

Such actions do not tally in any way with the task of ending the arms race. And it is not at all by chance that the United States has deliberately frustrated the very process of limiting and reducing nuclear arms, and torpedoed the talks both on strategic arms and on nuclear arms in Europe.

Our contacts with the American side also show that no positive changes have taken place in the position of the United States on these cardinal questions.

While persisting in its former line that has brought about the breakdown of the talks in Geneva and continuing to deploy its missiles in Western Europe, Washington holds forth about its readiness for a resumption of the talks. But, one may ask, talks on what? Talks on how many, and specifically what, missiles targeted against the Soviet Union and our allies can the United States deploy in Europe? Such talks are not for us.

There is no need to convince us about the usefulness of dialogue, the usefulness of talks. The moment the United States and the other NATO countries who are acting at one with it take measures for the restoration of the situation that existed before the deployment of the new American missiles in Western Europe was started, the Soviet Union will not be found wanting. This is the real road to talks.

Question: How is the situation shaping up in the other fields of arms limitation and disarmament?

Answer: Advance in other questions is also being blocked by the United States. I will dwell on two or three problems.

First of all, space. It is not the first year that the Soviet Union is pressing for an accord directed toward preventing the arms race from spreading to outer space.

We constantly raise this question with the leadership of the United States. We do this because we clearly realize the formidable consequences that the militarization of outer space would lead to. However, in the meantime the American President officially informed the United States Congress a few days ago that the government is starting the fulfillment of a broad arms race program in outer space and has no intention of reaching agreement with the Soviet Union on preventing the militarization of space, supposedly because of the difficulties of verification.

Bluntly and frankly, they do not want to reach an agreement. But going so far as to make a mockery of common sense, they express readiness to talk with us with the sole aim of agreeing that accord on this issue is impossible. It is thus that the people in Washington understand political dialogue and talks in general.

Let us take another key issue, the prohibition of chemical weapons.

It was already in 1972, that the USSR and other socialist countries proposed at the Geneva Disarmament Committee, by way of an initiative, the conclusion of a convention prohibiting the development, production and stockpiling of chemical weapons, and on their destruction. It was also then that they submitted a draft of such a convention.

Subsequently, we returned to this matter more than once, specifying our proposals and making them more detailed. But all these years the United States impeded the conclusion of a convention on the total prohibition of chemical weapons. It simply engaged in obstruction.

In Washington they have now decided to pose as champions of a ban on chemical weapons. For several months already the American leaders are promising to submit some proposals in Geneva on this score. But they remain no more than promises -- no one has any idea what form they will take -- while meantime, as follows from the President's remarks, a program of building up and renovating chemical weapons, which are deployed both on American territory and outside it, is being accelerated in the United States.

Yet another example. Two Soviet-American treaties on limitations on underground nuclear explosions have not been put into effect so far. They were signed almost 10 years ago and we have offered the United States many times to ratify them. But to this day it refuses to do so.

And what subterfuges they are resorting to in this! At first they said that the ratification of these treaties supposedly will hinder the talks on the general and complete prohibition of nuclear weapon tests. Then, when these talks were also frustrated, references began to be made to difficulties of verification.

Of course the matter here has nothing to do with verification; the signed treaties contain most thoroughly worked out provisions on this score. The matter lies in something else, in Washington's refusal to bind its hands with any limitations whatsoever that would impede the building up and perfection of nuclear arms.

I touched on the question of verification also because the United States drags it out whenever it does not want an agreement. When there is a real desire to reach agreement on measures of arms reduction and disarmament, verification has not been and cannot be an obstacle. This is borne out by past experience as well.

Incidentally, considering the policy and practice of the United States, we are interested not less but probably more than it in reliable verification, in adequate, concrete, measures of arms limitation and disarmament.

Question: It is said sometimes in the West that the Soviet Union purportedly does not wish to have accords with the United States at this time because the USSR is waiting for the outcome of the presidential elections there. How would you comment on this?

Answer: I will say this. Those who circulate such ideas either do not know or, most probably, deliberately distort our policy. It is a principled policy and is not subject to transient vacillations.

Throughout the history of Soviet-American relations we have dealt with various administrations in Washington. In those cases when realism and a responsible approach to relations with the Soviet Union were shown on the part of the U.S. leadership, matters, it can be said, proceeded normally. This had a favorable effect on the general situation in the world as well but in the absence of such a realistic approach our relations worsened accordingly.

Today, too, we are in favor of having normal, stable relations with the United States, relations based on equality, identical security and noninterference in each other's internal affairs. It now appears that hints about some sort of calculations on our part in connection with the elections in the United States are an attempt by someone to conceal his own reluctance to reach agreements with the Soviet Union on questions that demand their solution. As to the state of affairs on this account, an idea is provided by a comparison of the positions of the two sides if only on the questions that I have just mentioned.

Questions: What in your opinion is necessary for people to stop living in a state of constant fear for peace [mir]?

Answer: First of all it is necessary for the policy of states, especially of states possessing nuclear weapons, to be oriented at eliminating military danger, at consolidating peace.

Efforts should be directed first of all at stopping and rolling back the arms race. It is time to move from generalities about the usefulness of talks to eliminating the serious obstacles that have been erected in the way of the limitation and reduction of armaments, the development of trust and mutually advantageous cooperation.

I have already mentioned a number of the Soviet Union's far-reaching proposals on concrete questions in these fields. There are also other major questions requiring concrete efforts. Thus there is no doubt that a resolute turn for the better in the world would have been facilitated by an undertaking by all nuclear states not to be the first to use nuclear arms and also on the quantitative and qualitative freezing of nuclear arsenals. This does not require complex negotiations.

Political resolve should be displayed here. The result, no doubt, would be a weighty one in every respect. The main thing is that there would be a clear demonstration of readiness to give up attempts to achieve military superiority over others. Our country does not strive for such superiority but neither will it allow such a superiority over itself.

It is extremely important in general for certains norms pursuing aims of peace to be introduced in relations between states possessing nuclear weapons. I have had occasion to speak about this in detail before.

The task to create an atmosphere of trust in international relations is an urgent one. This requires a responsible and balanced policy on the part of all states and also the adoption of relevant practical measures leading in this direction.

The combination of large-scale steps of a political and international-legal order with measures of a military-technical order, which is advocated by the Soviet Union and other socialist countries, would make it possible to ensure the success of the Stockholm conference, make its results a major contribution to the strengthening of European and international security.

The most vigorous efforts must be made to liquidate the existing seats of tension and military conflict in various parts of the world and to prevent the appearance of new ones.

In other words, there are quite numerous possibilities for facilitating by concrete deeds the strengthening of peace and international security.

The Soviet Union is prepared to cooperate with all states in the attainment of these aims.

U.S. SENATORS TO PROPOSE BILL ON SALT TREATIES

LD061256 Moscow TASS in English 0700 GMT 6 Apr 84

[Text] Washington April 6 TASS -- American Democratic Senators Patrick Leahy and Dale Bumpers have announced their decision to table a bill, calling on the U.S. Administration to observe treaties and agreements on the limitation of strategic armaments, in particular the SALT-1 and SALT-2 treaties.

The bill reflects concern among American law-makers over statements by highly-placed administration officials that the United States might ignore a number of provisions contained in these treaties.

U.S. SPACE MILITARIZATION PLANS CASTIGATED

PM061158 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 6 Apr 84 Second Edition p 3

[V. Vinogradov article under the rubric "Observer's Notes": "The Pentagon's Yearning for Space"]

[Text] On the eve of the NATO Nuclear Planning Group session held in Cesme (Turkey), London's DAILY TELEGRAPH wrote that the Washington administration counts firmly on the support of the West European allies for the American plan to deploy ABM systems in space. However, during the session, a WASHINGTON POST correspondent reported from Cesme: "The NATO defense ministers expressed skepticism and concern in connection with the U.S. plans to prepare for war in space. They listened politely while U.S. Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger explained the American Administration's intentions of developing an ABM system with space-based components and attempted to justify its decison not to seek the conclusion of a treaty with the Soviet Union on banning antisatellite weapons. After the session, which, according to the American representatives' predictions, was to have been 'harmonious,' some of the allied countries' ministers made it clear that they had not been fully convinced."

It is not hard to understand the skepticism and concern which even the U.S. NATO allies display in relation to the Pentagon's space programs. Let us recall that a year ago President Reagan announced the start of the development of a new generation of ABM weapons. It was a question of laser devices and military antisatellite systems, which it is proposed to site in outer space. Even then people everywhere -- the United States included -- noted that plans to deploy such weapons in space are contrary to the letter and spirit of the treaty on the limitation of ABM systems concluded between the USSR and the United States in 1972.

THE NEW YORK TIMES observer A. Lewis wrote bluntly: "The Soviet Union has proposed a treaty banning the siting of weapons of any kind in outer space. So what happens? While the Russians propose stopping the arms race, the United States is starting a new round."

Yes, that is indeed what is happening: Our country makes tireless efforts to stop the arms race, and here is the United States seeking not only to accelerate it, but to take it into space. Here let us note that Washington did not by any means start the "new round" in this race from a standstill. As is clear from recently declassified Pentagon documents, major American corporations, in particular Boeing, General Dynamics, Bell, Lockheed, and Hughes Aircraft, started research and development in the sphere of the use of outer space for military purposes simultaneously with the emergence of strategic missiles. Thus in late 1958, these corporations' laboratories and plants began to carry out a top secret space ABM program codenamed "Project Defender." Within its framework preparations were carried out for the creation in space of a "ramified network of satellites equipped with missile weapons," designed for "the destruction of enemy strategic missiles on launch."

As you can see, as early as 25 years ago, some people in Washington entertained crazy plans for waging "space wars." But these plans were cloaked in utter secrecy. Now people on the Potomac make no secret of them. On the contrary, they even publicize these dangerous plans. The other day the White House sent Congress a report on U.S. policy on the question of antisatellite weapons. It is clear from the report that Reagan's administration has elaborated a wide program for the militarization of near-earth space and intends to sabotage the international community's efforts to close this new, highly dangerous channel of the arms race.

The report says, in particular, that the United States is planning to deploy antisatellite weapons in space. To this end the ASAT system is currently being developed, incorporating a two-stage carrier missile and a miniature warhead. The missile, which will be launched from a specially equipped F-15 Eagle fighter, is designed to destroy enemy satellites in a low orbit. Moreover work is under way to create new antisatellite systems using focused energy beams, including lasers.

At the same time, measures to protect American satellites and land-based systems are being developed, including measures involving increasing the maneuverability of space devices, using electronic means of protection, and equipping satellites with systems for returning fire. Moreover the U.S. Defense Department has begun to study a whole range of problems associated with military operations in space.

President Reagan sent a special letter to accompany the report. In the letter he tried to mislead the public about the true U.S. intentions. It asserts demagogically that the United States is allegedly "studying a number of alternatives in the sphere of arms control in space, with a view to talks with the Soviet Union and other countries." Later, however, referring to some kind of "significant difficulties as regards verification of measures to control antisatellite weapon systems," Reagan hastens to declare that the United States "does not consider it constructive to enter into official international talks" on this question.

Thus while hypocritically asserting its desire to improve relations with the Soviet Union and resume disarmament talks, in practice, official Washington is doing exactly the opposite. The report submitted to Congress by the President on U.S. policy in the sphere of antisatellite armaments is designed to openly spur on the arms race in space, which will lead to the further intensification of the danger of nuclear war.

As West Germany's KOELNER-STADT-ANZEIGER rightly points out, by refusing to hold talks on antisatellite weapons Reagan is "giving himself a free hand to create space weapons in the United States. The arms race goes on."

There was graphic comment on this dangerous step by the American Administration from another West German newspaper, the FRANKFURTER RUNDSCHAU. "What is 'good' and what is 'bad,'" it writes, is decided today by the Washington hawks on the advice of the military-industrial complex." It is a "good thing" for the manufacturers of the instruments of death that Washington intends to spend more than $25 billion on "star wars" preparations over the next 5 years. This promises them fabulous profits. And from their viewpoint, being deprived of these profits is a very "bad thing." The fact that as a result of the implementation of this program the world would be brought to the brink of nuclear catastrophe, does not worry the military-industrial complex bosses in the slightest.

This irresponsible approach of questions of war and peace is sharply criticized by sensible politicians, public figures, and press organs in the Unted States. It is characteristic that at the first press conference following the publication of the aforementioned White House report, the correspondents well and truly attacked the National Security Council spokesman. They asked him: why does the administration hide behind the questions of monitoring in connection with an all-embracing agreement on ABM weapons, and why is it unwilling to reach agreement with the Soviet side on destroying the systems which already exist? Why does Washington not reciprocate the major step which the Soviet Union has taken toward the United States in this sphere? The National Security Council spokesman was quite unable to offer a real reply to a single question. Nor could it have been otherwise. After all, he was expressing the American Administration's stance, which is contrary to common sense.

Washington's planned deployment of ABM systems with space-based components will only "spur on the arms race," Professor (U. Berrouz) of New York State University stated. In this connection, the scientist describes as a dangerous lie the White House's attempts to pass off such aggressive designs as all but arms control measures. The creation of an ABM defense will undoubtedly be a destabilizing factor, since it will mean the U.S. creation of a "shield" under cover of which it would be possible to carry out a first nuclear strike with impunity.

As for the Soviet Union's position on this important question, it is clear and consistent. Our country has proposed not only that the testing and deployment of any space-based weapons be renounced, but also that agreement be reached on eliminating the antisatellite systems which already exist and prohibiting the creation of new ones. The Soviet Union has also pledged not to be the first to place in outer space any type of antisatellite weapons so long as other states, the United States included, refrain from placing such weapons in space.

As is well known, this important Soviet initiative was supported by the UN General Assembly. But official Washington has remained deaf to it. Moreover, the aforementioned report by the American Administration indicates that in its unattainable desire to achieve military superiority over the Soviet Union, the Pentagon is now displaying a stubborn yearning toward space. The extremely dangerous course, which leads to the further whipping up of tension and the growth of the threat of nuclear catastrophe, is giving rise to the gravest fears everywhere.

In this connection it is quite obvious that the Soviet Union, while condemning in the most resolute way Washington's new militarist provocation, will not permit a situation to arise where the United States would obtain military superiority over the USSR.

U.S. MILITARIZATION OF SPACE EFFORTS 'DOOMED'

LD071346 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1900 GMT 6 Apr 84

[From "The World Today" program presented by Viktor Mikheyev]

[Text] The United States has foisted the creation of new weapons on the Soviet Union 23 times. Each time, they hoped to achieve military superiority over us. At one time, the United States hoped that, by using MIRVed warheads, they would be stronger than the USSR forever. But, soon after the United States developed those MIRVed warheads and placed them on strategic missiles, the Soviet Union replied to that challenge and developed similar warheads, which were installed on our strategic missiles.

The United States is throwing down the gauntlet again. They think they can achieve military superiority by creating space weapons. Well, in the first place, as you know, there is a treaty signed by the USSR and the United States on limitation of anti-missile defense systems, including space weapons. The United States intends to violate its international obligations once again by embarking on the development of anti-satellite weapons in space.

You will remember that last autumn the Soviet Union submitted a proposal in the UN General Assembly on an agreement to ban the use of space for military purposes. All the nations voted for this, except the United States, of course. In order somehow to camouflage his improper aims, Reagan has begun to say that it is impossible to ban anti-satellite weapons, since such agreements, he claims, cannot be verified. The United States' course toward militarizing space is why the United States is against the Soviet proposal to ban weapons of any kind in space. As for the claim of the impossibility of checking, this is a standard trick by the White House -- one they always use. For this reason, the United States refuses to hold bilateral talks with our country on anti-satellite systems.

The United States military-industrial complex expects to make something in the region of $26 billion from the development of space weapons over the next 5 years. Other reports put the figure as high as $54 billion. By the end of the 1990's, the United States' war corporations hope to get $95 billion from the American taxpayers. Manufacturers of death such as Lockheed and Rockwell International have already received $2 billion for the development of space weapons. Other companies that are eager to rake in billions of dollars for space weapons are Perkin-Elmer and (Charlestack Paper). Their pushiness has already earned them the nickname of the Gang of Four in the U.S. press.

The Soviet Union believes that it is of the utmost importance to erect a barrier to the plans to turn space into a source of lethal danger. The Soviet Union strongly condemns the United States' desire to begin a new and particularly dangerous round of the arms race under the usual cover of cynicism, demagogy and the standard formula about the impossibility of control.

The attempts by the United States to gain military superiority over the Soviet Union by developing space weapons are doomed to failure, as were all 23 previous rounds of the arms race that have been foisted on us. The Soviet Union will not allow the United States to achieve military superiority of any kind.

BLOC FOREIGN MINISTERS TO MEET 2D HALF OF APRIL

LD061641 Moscow TASS in English 1605 GMT 6 Apr 84

[Text] Moscow April 6 TASS -- In accordance with reached agreement the foreign ministers' committee of the Warsaw Treaty member states will hold another meeting in the second half of April 1984 in Budapest.

CEMA MACHINE-BUILDING PANEL MEETS IN MOSCOW

PM031651 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 1 Apr 84 Morning Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Intensifying Cooperation"]

[Text] The 91st session of the CEMA Standing Commission on Cooperation in Machine Building was held in Moscow from 27 through 30 March. Taking part were delegations from the CEMA countries and the SFRY.

The commission discussed the tasks stemming from the resolutions of the 38th session of CEMA and its Executive Committee and took decisions on the implementation of "the basic guidelines for expanding and improving cooperation between the CEMA countries in the economical and rational use of fuel and energy and raw material resources, including secondary ones" and "comprehensive cooperation measures to improve the supply of foodstuffs for the CEMA countries' population."

The commission session took place in an atmosphere of friendship and mutual understanding.

OFFICIAL ON CEMA ATOMIC POWER COOPERATION

LD071419 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0730 GMT 7 Apr 84

[Interview with Fedor Yakovlevich Ovchinnikov, general director of the international economic association "Interatomenergo," by correspondent Sergey Amelchenko; date, place not given -- recorded]

[Summary] [Amelchenko] Could you tell us about the sources and present status of CEMA countries' cooperation in atomic power?

[Ovchinnikov] The world's first AES was commissioned in the Soviet Union in 1954. The first industrial atomic power stations started to be built in the Soviet Union and then in the socialist countries. In 1966 the first unit were put into operation in the GDR. Afterwards, a whole series of units were built in Bulgaria and the CSSR. Last year the first unit was put into operation in Hungary. Atomic power units with a total capacity of 26.6 million kw are already in operation in the socialist countries, including the Soviet Union. These figures are considerable, but the pace of development of nuclear power engineering, both in the Soviet Union and in the socialist countries, should be even higher. It is in particular the USSR's power engineering program that determines this pace. In the socialist countries a program for the construction of an atomic power capacity of 37 million kw by the year 1990 has been planned. This program has required a qualitative new approach, in particular the creation, manufacture and deliveries of atomic equipment. New works were set up fitted out with new equipment. This required broad, thoroughgoing coordination of all work because all possible kinds of disruptions and under-deliveries could also affect the construction of atomic power units. In 1979 a special agreement was signed by the socialist countries envisaging a very wide specialization and cooperation in equipment deliveries for the atomic power stations of the socialist countries.

This is a very extensive, a very serious agreement. The total amount of this agreement runs to several billion rubles. This unprecedented agreement has required linkages [yvyazki]. For this reason it was decided to set up a special intergovernmental commission on a national scale [obshchegosudarstvennyy masshtab] which has been implementing the coordination of all work on this agrement.

[Amelchenko] Well, we know of cases where even two capitalist countries are unable to reach a common viewpoint if profits and complicated economic questions are involved, while eight countries are working in concert here. Very efficient coordination is probably necessary here. This is precisely what your organization is engaged in?

[Ovchinnikov] CEMA countries must manufacture equipment according to a single standard, a single technological language. In particular, our association in engaged in setting standards to ensure high quality and safe use of this equipment. The countries specialize in the manufacture of equipment. How can the value of this equipment be determined correctly? At what price should the equipment be sold to one another? These are tasks of no small importance and we are actively dealing with this. In the first importance and we are actively dealing with this. In the first Hungarian unit built last year 50 percent of the equipment has already been delivered from various socialist countries. For instance, in Unit No 5 at the Kozloduy atomic power station in Hungary the percentage of specialization will be even higher.

[Amelchenko] What does efficient specialization yield?

[Ovchinnikov] Any specialization gives a mass of advantages and the quality is higher. In principle all this is advantages for those who produce and use this equipment.

[Amelchenko] But this is only one of the main aspects of Interatomenergo's work?

[Ovchinnikov] In the sphere of scientific-technical cooperation we are taking part in the development of new kinds of equipment for atomic stations. For instance, the creation of highly effective filters. This work is being carried out jointly by specialists from the CSSR and USSR with the participation of our association and received a gold medal at the Leipzig Fair.

[Amelchenko] Is your association involved in fairs?

[Ovchinnikov] Yes. The main task in this regard is to promote the development of nuclear power engineering in our countries by all means available.

WEEKLY 'INTERNATIONAL OBSERVERS ROUNDTABLE'

LD081809 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1130 GMT 8 Apr 84

["International Observers Roundtable" program, presided over by Boris Andrianov, All-Union Radio foreign political commentator; with Dmitriy Antonovich Volskiy, NOVOYE VREMYA editorial board member; and Vadim Nikolayevich Nekrasov, KOMMUNIST international observer]

Chernenko on Peace Stance

[Text] [Andrianov] This week, Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, replied to the appeal of leading representatives of the Socialist International. In his message, the Soviet leader confirmed yet again the principled position of the Soviet Union on the most important problems of the present day. Comrade Chernenko emphasized in particular the fact that we have been and will continue to be convinced supporters of halting and turning back the arms race. The entire complex of proposals being put forward by the Soviet Union has this aim.

Recalling these proposals, the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee said that they amount to the following: to freeze immediately all nuclear arsenals; to limit and to considerably reduce strategic arms, to radically reduce the level of nuclear confrontation in Europe, to prevent the militarization of space; to ban and destroy chemical and other weapons. These and other measures aiming at the removal of the threat of war are dictated by life, Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko said; his words are realistic and correspond to an equal extent to the interests of all states, and to the needs and hopes of peoples of the world.

The successful launch of the Soyuz T-11 spacecraft with the joint Soviet-Indian crew on board was an important event in international relations. This flight has become an important result of the many year-long and fruitfully developing cooperation between our country and India in the peaceful conquest of space. It is a graphic demonstration of the traditional friendship of the Soviet and Indian peoples. At present, the international crew of the orbital complex is carrying out a planned program of joint scientific research. It will also be conducted over Indian territory. Noting the great practical importance of this program for India, the NATIONAL HERALD newspaper, published in Delhi, underlined that the results of space research would enable Indian specialists to detect emerging hurricanes, define borders of flooded regions, observe the development of sown fields, and to forecast harvests. The importance of these results is also seen in the fact that they will give Indian scientists the necessary information about thawing snow, overflowing rivers, the beginning of the rainy season, data about the utilization of cultivated land, and cartographic information for planning organization employees and land surveyors.

This is far from the full list of the great practical value of the space flight with the participation of an Indian cosmonaut. According to Dr Rao, director of the Indian Space Research Organization, the Soviet Union has helped India to make a gigantic step forward in space research and to start implementing the latest achievements in the sphere of space technology. The flight program of the international space crew confirms once again that the Soviet Union is ready for close cooperation with other countries having the aim of a peaceful conquest of space. Here I would like to stress, namely, the peaceful conquest of space.

U.S. Missile Deployment

[Nekrasov] I would like to note Comrade Chernenko's reply to the appeal of leading representatives of the Socialist International when he spoke about the current state of affairs in the international arena. The reply to this appeal directly emphasized that there is a threat that developments could get out of hand.

Each American nuclear missile deployed on European soil, Comrade Chernenko said, is a further step toward the danger point. At the same time, as a result of the policy which seeks to destroy the existing balance of forces, to achieve a military-strategic superiority over the Soviet Union, the process of talks on the limitation and reduction of nuclear arms has become deliberately disorganized, as Comrade Chernenko said. That is according to the will of the U.S. ruling circles and with the obvious support of governments of other NATO countries.

Last week, a regular session of the so-called NATO Nuclear Planning Group was held in the Turkish town of Cesme. Leaders of military departments of all countries of this bloc, except France which, as it is known, is not in the NATO military organization, and Iceland which does not have its own armed forces, participated in the session. Did the ministers who gathered on Turkish soil pay any attention to the anxiety and fears of the world public, of many politicians of the world, about the developing situation? Not at all! The meeting discussed, above all, the continued deployment of American missiles in Europe, and also the involvement of European countries in preparations for the militarization of space, that is, in the plans to deploy new weapons, including lasers, in space. This is, as you know, one of President Reagan's pet projects.

One cannot say that the American military was not engaged previously in attempts at the military conquest of space. In the last 25 years or so, that is since the start of man's conquest of space, the United States has launched, it is estimated, about 1,000 satellites of military designation. Even today there are a good hundred American satellites of this kind going round the earth. These are mainly information satellites, that is not having weapons on board. Now it is intended to equip them with the latest weapons: lasers and beam weapons and so on. The implementation of such plans requires vast new spending in the next decade. And the American military, as always, is striving to make its allies join in these plans, and to get as much money as possible from them. One cannot say, of course, that such plans enjoy popularity with Washington's allies. But as they say: Atlantic discipline entails obligations. These plans, above all were discussed -- if one can believe reports from foreign agencies and the press -- at the session in Cesme. Thus, NATO, under the leadership of the Pentagon, replies to the anxieties of the world public about the growing threat of war by plans for further boosting the threat to the earth from space.

[Andrianov] Vadim Nikolayevich, if we return to the subject of the deployment of new batches of American missiles on West European soil, a matter which, as you have said, was also discussed at the session of the Nuclear Planning Group, is there anything new on this?

[Nekrasov] Basically, no. The decision to site nearly 600 Pershings and cruise missiles is to be implemented in full and according to schedule. This is Washington's position. However, West European spokesmen are expressing hopes that, to quote, a resumption of Soviet-American talks on these questions and the reaching of an understanding there would remove this problem. Well, there is such a possibility, as the Soviet Union constantly points out. It is necessary for Washington to relinquish its plans, and the situation which existed prior to the start of missile siting must be restored. Then a real possibility would be opened not only to limit but also to reduce substantially the nuclear armaments on European soil. The Soviet proposals on this matter remain in full force. However, across the ocean there is no desire to even consider this.

Weinberger, the U.S. Secretary of Defense, made a stopover in the Netherlands, on his way to Turkey. What was the purpose? The point is that in 2 months' time the Netherlands parliament is due to debate the question whether or not to site 48 U.S. cruise missiles in the country.

The atmosphere in the Netherlands is now such that no one can be sure of the outcome of the parliamentary vote. What if a parliamentary majority votes against it? This would be no mere scandal. The main thing is not that this would even mean the fall of The Hague government and new parliamentary elections; this would be, so to speak, an earth-shattering event in the NATO camp, since it would shake the positions of all advocates of the so-called upgrading of armaments in Belgium, in the FRG, and in other countries.

[Andrianov] I read that in the Netherlands the U.S. defense secretary resorted to the following tactics: He declared that a decision by the Netherlands to abandon the deployment of cruise missiles would mean a severe blow, even a death blow, as he said, for the hopes of resuming talks with the Soviet Union on limiting nuclear armaments in Europe. According to this most peculiar logic of Weinberger's, it appears that the more U.S. missiles the Pentagon manages to bring over to Europe, the easier it would be to come to an understanding on reducing nuclear armaments on European soil.

[Nekrasov] Indeed, from all accounts, the chief of the U.S. military department did not eschew the use of even such obvious demagogy. It is quite clear -- and Moscow has been stressing this firmly -- that no talks are possible while the deployment of missiles continues. However, Washington and NATO official propagandists continue to insist: The greater the number of U.S. missiles in Europe, the greater the chances of the Soviet Union conceding and agreeing to hold talks on American terms. This is done in an attempt to confuse public opinion in Europe, to weaken presure from the antiwar movement on the governments of NATO member countries, and thus facilitate the implementation of the sinister American plans. However, as far as it is known, Weinberger failed to obtain guarantees in the Netherlands that the missiles would be deployed.

In fact, some days ago the press carried a letter from the All-Netherlands Council of Churches addressed to the country's parliament and government, opposing the siting of missiles. This is what the letter says: The deployment of missiles will only aggravate the instability of the international situation, bringing closer the death of our planet. The situation now has become more serious than ever before. International relations have been undermined by the NATO decision to deploy missiles in Europe. These are the words of the body of churches of the Netherlands, to which one many add that it represents about 9 million believers in the country, out of an overall population of 14 million people. As you can see, it is a most appreciable force.

On the whole, I think it is now possible to say with confidence that the missile deployment, begun by the Americans with the active complicity of certain governments of NATO countries, has not led to the abatement of the antiwar movement in Western Europe as was hoped across the ocean and in NATO Headquarters. On the contrary, today it is possible to say first of all that in the summer of this year one can expect a new and also considerable upsurge of the public antiwar, antimissile movement, and new pressure from the popular masses on the governments regarding this issue. Second, it is already clear that the start of missile deployment has brought about an acute crisis in relations within the NATO camp. For example, the last issue of the West German magazine STERN says: NATO is getting stuck deeper and deeper in the quagmire of crisis. Europe and the United States are moving ever more quickly apart.

NATO Cohesion; Japanese Ties

[Andrianov] Vadim Nikolayevich, such admissions can be found also in many other press publications in NATO countries. It is remarkable that these admissions are being made at a time when the top NATO leadership is preparing to solemnly mark the 35th anniversary of this military bloc.

One of the chief propaganda themes of the celebrations is the assertion that, as it were, the cohesion of NATO countries is what makes the preservation of peace and the prevention of a new world war possible.

[Nekrasov] The propaganda you are talking about is indeed being conducted on a very broad scale. NATO is being portrayed as a dove of peace, and NATO generals as the chief peacemakers. But there is no getting away from facts. Facts cannot be deleted from the history textbooks, nor from the political life of today. For example, when the creation of NATO was being conceived, the U.S. National Security Council adopted a document known as Memorandum No 7. It was quoted in our press last week. Let me remind you what it says: The defeat of the forces of world communism, led by the Soviets, is of vital importance to the United States. Insofar as this objective cannot be achieved by means of a defensive policy, the United States should assume a leading role in organizing a world-wide counterattack against the might of communist forces. This is the concept of NATO as it was 35 years ago and as it is today. The arms race was started by the United States, followed by other NATO countries. The extremely dangerous situation facing the world today is the result of this race, the work of NATO. This is the price of the great lie of imperialist propaganda about NATO's peace-making nature.

[Andrianov] Vadim Nikolayevich, one further circumstance should be noted -- that the government of Japan is now trying to link its country closer to NATO's militarist chariot. This is the implication of the activities of the present Nakasone Cabinet in the foreign policy and military spheres. The process by which Japan is becoming rooted to the system of the North Atlantic bloc is also gathering speed.

Last year, at the conference of the capitalist "Seven" in Williamsburg, the Japanese prime minister made a point of declaring the unity of the Land of the Rising Sun with NATO. Soon afterwards, in Tokyo, a series of official consultations was held with representatives of West European member-countries of that bloc. The sessions of the North Atlantic Assembly, which is made up of MPs from NATO states, are also being attended by representatives of the Parliamentary Council for the Integrated Security of Japan, the United States and West Europe, based in Tokyo. For the time being, they are there as observers, but there have been reports that the Japanese representative may be given some form of permanent status at NATO headquarters.

There has been a sharp increase in the intensity of anti-Sovietism in Japanese propaganda, something that is also very important to note. It is in the military sphere, however, that Japan's rapprochement with NATO stands out most clearly. Japan is far ahead of the countries of the North Atlantic bloc with regard to the rate at which it is increasing its military expenditure. The Nakasone Cabinet long ago turned its country's territory into a nuclear depot for the Pentagon, casting off, in effect, their own non-nuclear principles. So Japan is clearly reluctant to lag behind NATO's nuclear strategy. In imitation of the NATO strategists, who have divided the world into so-called zones of responsibility, the Japanese Government has declared its willingness to take control of the Pacific sea routes.

There are those who try to assert that official Tokyo agreed to this under pressure from Washington. But, as the saying goes: You can't love to order. And the Japanese politicians have fallen in with Washington's wishes with ill-concealed pleasure -- probably according to a scenario worked out in advance. What lurks beneath the obligations undertaken by the Nakasone Cabinet is, after all, a concrete militarist program.

U.S. Mideast Involvement

[Volskiy] And yet I think it is the Near East that is still the most dangerous hotbed, and it is significant that this is where the Reagan administration and NATO policy have suffered a palpable defeat. I mean in Lebanon. Just recently, as it happens -- a few days ago -- there occured what might at first glance seem a fairly inconspicuous event amid all the bombs and bullets, and yet is rather symptomatic: The United States officially announced that their Marines no longer form part of the NATO Multinational Force in Lebanon.

A pointless announcement on the face of it, since the last contingent of the Multinational Force -- the French -- was evacuated from Lebanon back in March, and the Italians and British had gone earlier. As you know, the U.S. Marines got out of Beirut long ago and were transferred to ships of the 6th Fleet. And now Washington has officially heralded the fact that the whole mission of the Multinational Force is finished. They could have added that it has ended without having achieved anything. In fact, it's hard to see why the admission was thought necessary. However, it is a calculated move on many levels, as can be discerned, not from statements, but from practical actions. Israel is again looming large. It is threatening Syria and, moreover, provoking the Syrian troops in the Al-Biqa' Valley. That's one aspect of the matter. On the other hand, by announcing that the Marines' mission in Lebanon is at an end, the United States has provided itself with an opportunity and a reason for transferring some their ships from the shores of Lebanon. Now they are off somewhere else -- possibly to the coast of Libya, which is being subjected to an unceasing campaign of threats, and the war in Chad is being fought not far from its borders. Or they may be bound for the Persian Gulf, where the Pentagon is directly preparing an intervention so as to take advantage of the war between Iran and Iraq. It is not impossible, either, that Reagan's election strategy may also be involved, inasmuch as some people consider that after his failure in Lebanon he may feel the need of some more successful interventionist action to warm up the American chuvinism that put him in the White House.

U.S. 'Terrorism' in C. America

[Andrianov] Dmitriy Antonovich, the attempt to warm up chauvinistic sentiments in the United States is associated particularly with what's going on in Central America. Of significance in this connection is the vetoing by the United States of the Security Council resolution calling for an end to the mining of Nicaraguan ports.

[Volskiy] Well, in connection with the placing of mines in Nicaragua's ports -- and several ships of various countries have already been blown up -- Secretary of State Shultz was asked the following question by an NBC television commentator. I quote the question, which is more like an answer -- an assertion: The United States, the commentator said, has made no great secret of supplying mines to the rebels fighting against the Sandinists in Nicaragua -- I quote his statement -- or of the fact that they, the rebels, are being provided with maps indicating depths and approaches to the ports. The correspondent asks, is all this not terrorism supported by the state? Well, Shultz didn't really bother to deny it particularly. He merely tried to say something to the effect that Nicaragua has only itself to blame. So, as we see, even considerable sections of the American public, even the media, are beginning to admit that the United States is pursuing a policy of state terrorism in Central America and they are even using that term. That policy is not only dangerous in itself -- not only because it causes human suffering -- it is also doubly dangerous because it serves the aims of provocation and incitement. Terrorism on this state level is being used as a fuse for preparing wars, small ones, and perhaps big ones, too.

[Andrianov] And in this connection, Dmitriy Antonovich, I think it's no accident that the placing of mines in Nicaraguan ports has directly preceded the major Grenadier I maneuvers that are being held on the territory of Honduras, in the immediate vicinity of Nicaragua's borders.

[Volskiy] The present American maneuvers there are virtually leading to the establishment of a permanent U.S. military presence in Honduras. The infrastructure, as it is called, for such a presence, has been under construction since the summer: barracks, air fields, depots and, what is perhaps particularly alarming, hospitals. And let me remind you that Honduras is situated between Nicaragua, Guatemala and El Salvador, hence its key strategic importance on the Central American isthmus.

And, together with the American and Honduran armies, government forces of El Salvador are taking part, for the first time, in the current maneuvers there. These are the same forces that have been trying, for a very long time and very unsuccessfully, with the help of their American advisers, to crush the popular uprising in El Salvador.

For this reason, it can by no means be ruled out at present that Washington will attempt to use the maneuvers in Honduras to deal a blow to the Salvadoran partisans from the rear, from the territory of Honduras.

[Andrianov] The issues which we have been dealing with in our discussion today demonstrate overall that the international situation is very difficult, and this difficult nature of the situation demands that all states strive for a real breakthrough for the better in the development of world events, and an example in this regard is provided by the actions of our country.

USSR-Indonesian Relations

The Soviet-Indonesian talks held this week were further confirmation of this. They showed that on a number of fundamental international problems, including those concerning issues of peace and war and the problems of disarmament, the positions of our country and Indonesia are close or coincide. This community of the interests of the peoples of the two countries in consolidating universal peace and extending international cooperation is a solid basis for the further, onward development of relations between the Soviet Union and Indonesia.

During the talks held between Comrade Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and minister of foreign affairs, and Kusumaatmaja, the Indonesian minister of foreign affairs, the situation in various areas of the world particularly in Southeast Asia, was discussed. Naturally, it was no coincidence that attention was devoted to this region. After all, it is one of the most complex regions of the world, and the reason for the situation which has arisen there is to be found in the fact that forces outside Southeast Asia want to use this strategically important region in their own interests.

U.S.-ASEAN Cooperation

[Nekrasov] Not to beat about the bush, we are talking here above all about the United States, which engages in dangerous intrigues, and resorts to unceremonious pressure in order to hinder the free development and equitable cooperation of the peoples of Southeast Asia, and to sow the seeds of mistrust and enmity among them.

[Andrianov] It is not a new ploy: Divide and rule. Moreover, one cannot fail to note the increased activity which Washingtion is manifesting in the countries of ASEAN, as the Association of Southeast Asian Nations is called. Its members are Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand, the Philippines and Brunei. These are young states, which received political independence only recently. The formation of this association a decade and a half ago reflected a desire of this regions' peoples is for peace and stability. They decided to join forces so as to jointly stand up to the West's economic expansion and to establish cooperation within the framework of the association for the purposes of development. This cooperation was envisaged in the spheres of economy and culture. However, Washington evidently regards these spheres as too narrow for ASEAN, and for several years now the United States has been persistently striving to turn the association into a military-political grouping -- subordinate to the will of American strategists, of course. At any rate, the behavior of the rulers in Washington shows that they are stubbornly and persistently working in this direction, using various levers to put pressure on the ASEAN countries.

[Nekrasov] Let me add that in order to implement its expansionist course, Washington makes wide use of an arsenal of propaganda methods. Among these, not least are the hackneyed myth of the communist danger, idle fabrications about Vietnamese and Soviet military threats, and other such fallacious conjectures.

[Andrianov] The lies, deceit, hypocrisy and perfidy of the American imperialists are proof of the weakness of their positions, and in the final analysis this will inevitably backfire on them. Despite the pressure Washington is putting on the ASEAN countries from all sides, a trend toward an improvement in relations with all the states of Southeast Asia is gradually but noticeably growing there. This is promoted, in part, by the peace-loving policies of Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea, which consistently pursue a course of good-neighborliness, and make proposals for a treaty of nonaggression and normalization of relations with the ASEAN countries on the basis of the principles of peaceful coexistence and for an international conference to settle regional issues.

The desire of the countries of Indochina to break the ice of mistrust and to achieve mutual understanding with their neighbors is already bearing fruit. After his recent visit to Hanoi, General Murdani, commander-in-chief of the Indonesian armed forces, declared: Jakarta does not believe that Vietnam threatens Southeast Asia. The trip by Vietnamese Minister of Foreign Affairs Nguyen Co Thach to Thailand, Indonesia and Australia was received very favorably by the ASEAN countries. It was seen as the latest step aimed at establishing a fruitful dialogue with the ASEAN countries, at the drawing up of measures on a mutually-acceptable basis to surmount the remaining contradictions, and, in the final analysis, turning Southeast Asia into a region of stability, good-neighborliness, peace, mutual understanding and cooperation.

On that note, we come to the end of our roundtable meeting. I thank all who have taken part for your attention. Goodbye esteemed listeners and all the best.

'INTERNATIONAL SITUATION: QUESTIONS & ANSWERS'

LD061722 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0930 GMT 6 Apr 84

["International Situation: Questions and Answers" program moderated by Yevgeniy Viktorovich Kachanov, foreign political commentator of All-Union Radio; with the participation of Gennadiy Arkadiyevich Shishkin, TASS political observer; and Eduard Vasiliyevich Kovalev, international affairs journalist]

Arms Race, Peace Appeals

[Excerpts] [Kachanov] Letters expressing serious concern over the fate of peace on our planet are reaching us in great numbers, I ask international affairs journalist Eduard Kovalev, one of those taking part in our broadcast, to talk about them. If you please, Eduard Vasilyevich.

[Kovalev] Our listeners' interest in these problems, Yevgeniy Viktorovich, is quite understandable. One can fully understand their concern over the fact that the situation in Europe and an international affairs as a whole has seriously deteriorated. The world is currently living through a complex and dangerous period. At the same time, however, the complicated nature of the present-day international situation obliges us to double, treble our efforts for the good of peace and international cooperation. The point here is that the arms race, including that involving nuclear arms, is accelerating. It is becoming more and more threatening to the future of mankind. At the same time talks on issues of limiting and reducing nuclear arms are not being conducted at present. They have been disorganized. Moreover, as the facts show, this process of disorganization is being carried out deliberately.

Responding to the appeal by leading figures of the Socialist International, Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, said recently this whole situation is the result of a well-known policy aimed at breaking down the existing balance of forces and at achieving military strategic superiority over the Soviet Union. No manner of lulling statements alleging that nothing particular is happening, nor ostentatious displays of peaceableness, can hide all the perniciousness of such a policy.

The incessant whipping up of international tension by imperialist forces in the United States and the other NATO countries is extremely dangerous. The West's fault in this is completely obvious. But the greater the threat posed by an imperialist policy like this to our human civilization, the more active the peace-loving forces -- forces of mankind's self-preservation -- become. For example, indignation is growing in Western Europe over the irresponsible actions of those who are sacrificing its security to Washington's imperialist ambitions. Millions of participants in the antiwar, antimissile movement are speaking of this firmly and loudly.

[Kachanov] Eduard Vasilyevich, what can be said about the fact that over the past few weeks, or even months, the U.S. Administration has started making statements that appear to be peace-loving on the surface, and issuing appeals for dialogue?

[Kovalev] Well just look -- these statements are in sharp contradiction to everything that has been said, or more importantly, done and is continuing to be done by the U.S. Administration in relations with us. According to the Soviet leadership, as Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko said in his preelection speech, the U.S. Administration's assurances of good intentions can only be taken seriously if they are substantiated by real actions. So far there has been no sign of any such real actions. I shall now take the liberty of quoting a high-ranking American official. He said recently: We got all dressed up, but there was no ball to attend, as it turned out. He said this while describing the situation that has arisen in American-Soviet relations and talks between the big powers on matters concerning arms limitation and reduction. Thus, in America they were putting on a show and counting on this propagandist smokescreen to quietly take care of their interests. We fully desire to conduct a dialogue, says a high-ranking representative of the Washington Administration. The path to the table of talks is open, echoes a second. Meanwhile the NATO press, well-schooled in the bloc's discipline, picks up these statements and tries to convince the public that everything depends on the Soviet Union, so to speak. When the Soviet Union wishes, the talks on the problem of nuclear arms in Europe will be resumed. However, all this is a trick, and a clumsy trick at that.

You will recall, comrade radio listeners, that the Geneva talks on matters concerning nuclear arms in Europe went on for almost 2 years. During these 2 years, the USSR insistently strove for a lowering of the level of nuclear confrontation on the European Continent. We proposed that there should be either a total destruction of these arms, or a drastic reduction of them. Over the whole of this period, the United States went full steam ahead with preparations for the deployment of Pershing II and cruise missiles in Western Europe, striving at the same time to achieve the impossible -- the unilateral disarmament of the Soviet Union. That is -- and this must be said quite clearly and openly -- they were openly pushing the Geneva talks into a deadlock that had been prepared earlier. Now, when it is precisely thanks to the American position that the Geneva talks have been wrecked, the Washington hawks have suddenly started cooing like doves. One could well say to them -- they are calling for dialogue, but what is this dialogue to be about? Let us recall. In Geneva, it was a matter of limiting medium-range nuclear missile weaponry in Europe. Since last November the Americans, deploying their new medium-range missiles in the FRG, Britain and Italy, have been building up these nuclear arms. This process is diametrically opposed to the one supported by the Soviet Union. This process, as we have repeatedly stressed, undermines the very basis of talks. To agree to continue talks in these conditions would mean covering up and encouraging Washington's militaristic actions.

[Kachanov] But, as they say, there can be no deadlock situations in politics unless they are artificially created. So there must be some way out of this situation too?

[Kovalev] Yes you are right, there is a way out, even in this specific area. Soviet leaders, have repeatedly during the last few months, pointed out the existence of such a solution. For the USSR's constructive, realistic proposals concerning both European and strategic arms remain in force. In order to renew dialogue -- and this has been repeated more than once -- only one thing is necessary: the United States must remove the obstacles it has created itself. The Americans must display a readiness to return, and return to the situation that existed in Europe prior to the deployment of new Pershing II and cruise missiles there. This is precisely what Washington does not wish to do, however, and in order to disguise the real state of affairs they are erecting a smoke-screen and repeatedly publicizing the importunate cliche, worn out by the American masters of propaganda, about Washington's peaceableness and intractible Moscow, which for some reason does not wish to waltz at the ball of talks with the hawks adorned in doves' feathers. You will remember that we quoted this statement by a high-ranking American representative at the beginning.

There is no end as they say, to specific examples of such an American position. Take the talks on the possible banning of chemical weapons, which are taking place in Geneva within the framework of the disarmament conference. Let me remind you that back in January this year U.S. Secretary of State Shultz announced with great pomp and ceremony that his country intends to introduce at the conference on disarmament a draft convention banning chemical weapons. A great hullabaloo was organized around this statement. Since that time, there has been no shortage of publicity for this intention both in the American mass media and at many international diplomatic meetings. The promised draft, however, has still not been presented.

As one can see, a necessary constituent part of Washington's current superficial peace-making efforts is the importunate advertizing of one's own good intentions. As for specific steps in the promised direction, they are far from obligatory, according to the American leadership. One cannot help but recall here the English saying that the road to hell is paved with good intentions. This is where, to all intents and purposes, certain unfortunately still influential political circles in present-day America would like to lead the whole world. Why has such a course of action been chosen? Because Washington's latest actions in the sphere of foreign policy have a depressing effect on the international public.

Monitoring CW Ban

Everyone knows that the United States unilaterally broke off talks in one direction -- that of limiting and reducing arms -- while in another direction -- and in particular that dealing with medium-range missile weaponry -- it has made the continuation of such talks virtually impossible. Thus in the case of banning chemical weapons also, it is becoming clearer every day that in reality, behind all the propagandist, peace-loving assurances by the United States, there is nothing positive after all. It seems, as the American press itself is writing at the moment, that the promised draft convention on chemical weapons is being supplemented. Why? Because the American side considers somehow insufficient the provisions for monitoring a possible banning of these weapons. It is not the first time the questions of monitoring are being used to depart from specific discussion of the important issues of disarmament. This time too, in order to avoid the agreement on chemical weapons which is threatening the United States, they are again raising matters of monitoring. This is taking place because as a result of the recent constructive steps by the Soviet Union, quite a good basis has been formed for the immediate conclusion of a convention banning and liquidating chemical weapons.

Recently, activists of the Socialist International appealed to Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko, calling upon us to strive for a move for the better. The Soviet leader gave them a clear and unambiguous reply: Yes, dialogue is essential, including that between the Soviet Union and the United States, of course, but it must be a dialogue that is honest, businesslike and aimed at working out accords which correspond with the principle of equality and equal security. The Soviet Union has both the will and the resolve to conduct matters in this way. However, this requires a corresponding readiness on the part of the United States also.

Moreover, Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko said, even though the U.S. Administration has recently been issuing assurances of its desire to hold a dialogue with the USSR, it does not back these up with anything specific. From this evaluation it is clear that on our side it is not a matter of conversations or statements about our readiness for talks, but of a readiness to remove obstacles that have been put on the path to the talks on limitation and reduction of nuclear arms. This is precisely the position of the Soviet Union. We have been and remain convinced supporters of stopping and reversing the arms race. This is what all the proposals made by the Soviet Union in recent years are aimed at. This relates also to the proposal we put forward recently about reaching an agreement on certain definite norms to which relations between powers with nuclear weapons would be subordinated and on making these norms obligatory. It is important, Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko stressed, that all nuclear powers should regard the task of preventing nuclear war as one of paramount importance in their policies, and that they should build their relations with each other taking this into account.

U.S. Election Campaign, Issues

[Kachanov] Thank you, Eduard. Vasilyevich. Various aspects of the election campaign taking place in the United States are of interest to many of our listeners. Esteemed comrades, I have shown your letters to TASS political observer Gennadiy Arkadiyevich Shishkin, and I now ask him to speak:

[Shishkin] An increasing number of Americans are now asking themselves whether they are better off having had Reagan in the White House for over 3 years. There can be only one answer -- the overwhelming majority are worse off.

[Kachanov] Well, Gennadiy Arkadiyevich, in such a situation it would seem that the Reagan Administration has no hope of victory in the November elections?

[Shishkin] In fact that is not so. For the Republicans who are now in power are opposed by the Democrats who represent the interests of the U.S. monopolies no less than the Republicans and to date they have not put forward a platform which could inspire the voters. Moreover, the Republican candidate Reagan has the great advantage over any possible Democratic candidate in that he is in power and hence has the opportunity for powerful influence on the whole U.S. propaganda apparatus.

The Democrats' position is also complicated by the fact that there is no unity in their ranks so that they are not so much struggling against Reagan's policy as squabbling among themselves and have not yet put forward a strong leader who could oppose Reagan. Now, it is true that from among the many aspirants to the role of Democratic presidential candidate, only three remain -- former Carter Vice President Mondale, Senator Hart and Black leader Jackson. There is every reason to suppose today that the Democratic candidate will be either Mondale or Hart. Mondale has a strong position in the AFL-CIO trade union association, among party functionaries circles, among the Jewish community, women and farmers.

In Mondale's speeches, considerable prominence is given to the theme of war and peace. He criticizes Reagan for his course of confrontation with the USSR and his lack of serious approach to the Soviet-U.S. talks in Geneva on strategic armaments and medium-range weapons in Europe. He calls for ratification of the SALT II treaty and the conclusion of a new agreement on reducing strategic armaments.

The 45-year-old Hart is one of the youngest aspirants to the post of President. He calls himself a neoliberal and comes out for a socially responsible partnership among business, government and the trade unions, and for the strengthening of the U.S. military potential at a very low cost. In his statement on putting forward his candidacy, Senator Hart described himself as a representative of the new political generation that is striving to break away from the impasse of old systems and old doctrines. Hart has stated that in his first week as President he would set out for Geneva for talks with the USSR on freezing nuclear armaments.

It would, of course, be premature to make any forecasts about the possible outcome of the forthcoming November elections. But in spite of all the as yet unknown ups and downs in the electoral struggle in the United States and regardless of its eventual outcome, one thing is quite clear -- U.S. bourgeois pseudodemocracy is antipopular in its nature and essence and cannot serve the genuine national interests of the United States.

Trilateral Commission Session

[Kachanov] Thank you, Gennadiy Arkadiyevich.

Listener Nikolay Mitrofanovich Klimov from Tomsk asks us to explain about the Trilateral Commission which was referred to recently in an article in PRAVDA.

A routine plenary meeting of the Trilateral Commission took place in Washington this week. A report was presented to its participants containing somber forecasts for the capitalist world for the next 10 years. A considerable deterioration is expected in the economy, as well as growing unemployment and falling living standards in the West. This was stated by people who know very well the reasons for such pessimistic forecasts for the economic future of the capitalist countries.

What prescriptions are proposed to cure the serious economic ills? Let us say directly that these recommendations are expressed in a frankly militaristic spirit. Their essence comes down to saying that the U.S. allies should increase their military expenditure, that is, give a further impulse to the arms race which they try to present as virtually a panacea for all the economic ills of the capitalist world. The report gives wholesome praise to the deployment of the new U.S. nuclear missile weapons in Western Europe. The actions of the Government of the FRG, Britain and Italy which -- despite the mass protests of the public of these countries, have turned the territory of their states into launch pads for U.S. Pershing and cruise missiles -- are cited as examples of genuine Atlatnic solidarity. The recommendations of the Trilateral Commission stress that Japan should be included more actively in NATO's militaristic preparations: it should increase its military expenditure by many billions of dollars.

In all such appeals and demands one can sense the voice of the ruling clique of the United States. It is clearly now possessed by the idea of the military consolidation of world imperialism calculating, among other things, on retaining for itself for a long time the role of leader in the West's policy and economy. In fanning up its clamorous campaign calling for a global anticommunist policy, Washington is using it in part, in essence, to undermine the economy of its partners who are also its competitors. It is quite clear that the politicians across the ocean are pursuing many aims in their strategy of international confrontation. It is called upon to draw the United States allies into implementing the U.S. hegemonistic plans, to weaken their competitive position on the world markets and at the same time to reduce the military burden on the United States itself, as it is becoming inordinate even for the citadel of capitalism.

Saudi Arabian Policies

[Kachanov] Comrade Azhgibokov from the settlement of Verkhevazhye, Vologda Oblast, asks about Saudi Arabia. The government has declared positive neutrality to be its official foreign policy. In practice it has frequently acted as conductor of the policy of U.S. imperialism in the Near East, although on individual points of the problem of a Near East settlement, Saudi Arabia occupies positions different from the United States, in particular with regard to Israel and the problem of Lebanon. The rulers of Saudi Arabia support the Afghan counterrevolution which is waging a subversive struggle against the DRA. At the same time Saudi Arabia, adhering to positions of Arab nationalism, gives financial aid to certain Arab states that are victims of Israeli aggression. However, they also do everything to oppose the progressive forces of the countries of the Arab East. There you have a short description of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and its foreign and internal policy.

BOGOMOLOV CALLS FOR EAST-WEST COOPERATION

AU051320 Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak 4 Apr 84 p 6

[Article by Academician Oleg Bogomolov, member of the USSR Academy of Sciences: "Only Relations of Partnership Have a Future; World Economy -- Mutual Dependence and Cooperation"]

[Text] Economic life in the present world is far more internationalized than ever before The future of every country is contingent on the normal development of international economic relations and on the elimination of conflicts and contradictions that undermine the world economy.

The world economy, as one of the realities of the present, constitutes a complex and by no means homogeneous system of relations. Given the existence of two antithetical social systems -- socialism and capitalism, advanced industrial and developing countries -- the world economy presents itself as a system which, in spite of being full of contradictions, is integrated. As history has shown, differences between socioeconomic systems do not represent an insurmountable obstacle to the joint solution of international problems, mutually advantageous trade, and cooperation among socialist and capitalist states. On the contrary, the heterogeneity of national conditions benefits, in essence, international contacts and exchange.

The Inevitability of International Production Specialization

The variety of industrial production and the technologically complex nature of this production, especially in engineering, electronics, and chemistry, is so wide-ranging and the need to cut costs on the basis of concentrating production and increasing the size of the manufactured lots is so urgent that even the largest and most advanced states cannot effectively produce the entire range of production. Another restricting factor is the growing cost of scientific research, design work, and testing of the introduction of their results into practice. All this points out the need for international specialization and cooperation in production and scientific-technical development and makes them an indispensible condition for raising the efficiency of economic activity.

In this connection it is necessary to pay attention to the fact that economic exchange among countries is growing at a much faster rate than the production of material values. In the last 40 years, the growth rates of international trade have been 1.5 times higher than the growth rates of the total gross domestic product of all countries in the world. Some economists predict that by the year 2000 roughly one-third of the total world production will be subject to international exchange, compared with 20 to 22 percent at present.

Especially in the seventies, the growing internationalization of economic life was favorably influenced by the policy of peaceful coexistence among states with different social systems and by the transition from the policy of confrontation to the policy of easing international tension. The solution of many acute economic problems worrying people in various countries today requires an international joining of forces. The coordination of national policies and the reconstruction of the world economy on a democratic basis are thus becoming the main points on the agenda of international life.

Global Problems of the Economy

The transition of the problem of food, energy, and material supplies from a national to a global scale furnishes one of the most graphic pieces of evidence of the need for increasingly close cooperation among countries.

As a consequence of the unequal distribution of fuel resources (especially crude oil) and minerals among states, the mechanism of the world economy faces the exceedingly complex task of meeting the growing needs of countries that are not capable of ensuring their needs themselves.

The advanced industrial countries of the capitalist world have at their disposal about 40 percent of verified mineral deposits, yet they account for up to 70 percent of their worldwide consumption. Roughly one-half of total energy consumption in the EC countries is being ensured by imports (mainly of crude oil) from third countries. The United States meets as much as 40 percent of its crude oil needs by imports.

The member-countries of CEMA ensure about 95 percent of their consumption of crude oil, natural gas, electricity, bituminous coal, iron ore, and some other crucial raw materials on the basis of their own production and mutual cooperation. This is a clear advantage over the EC countries, an advantage that is very tangible in periods of serious breakdowns in the functioning of the world economy, as was the case in 1973-74.

The growing dependence of the United States, Western Europe, and Japan on imports of raw materials and fuels in the postwar period has been caused not only by lack or depletion of geological reserves but also by rapid growth of consumption and by their own extraction becoming increasingly costly. Rationalization of consumption, technological innovations aimed at substituting for especially rare metals and other minerals, and a fuller utilization of their own resources have not yet slowed down the trend pointing to an increase in this dependence.

If we add to this the increase in the relative prices of minerals (especially crude oil) in the last decade, the uncertainty in ensuring the long-term supplies of raw materials, and panicky predictions of an approaching depletion of some types of natural resources, it becomes self-evident that raw materials are becoming one of the most vulnerable spots in the structure of Western industry. In this, and in many other areas as well, the good functioning of the Western economy is inseparable from the situation in world trade.

The Solution -- A Joint Economic Strategy

The threat of a raw material and energy crisis has not passed, regardless of a certain weakening of its sharpness. The fight for access to the markets of mineral resources escalates. However, today it is no longer possible to rely on a solution on the basis of strength. Only voluntary, equal, and mutually advantageous cooperation among all groups of states and the drafting of a joint economic strategy can guarantee a way out of the growing difficulties. Cooperation within the framework of CEMA, based on the coordination of long-term plans, represents an example that deserves attention.

The complications in the world raw materials situation has forced the industrially advanced European capitalist states to adopt measures expanding imports of energy resources, including imports from CEMA countries. Promising are, for example, imports of Soviet natural gas and Polish bituminous coal. The interest of the West in new, reliable sources of fuels and raw materials and the need for the CEMA countries to import modern equipment and technology, including equipment and technology for the fuel and raw materials branches, form the necessary prerequisites for this.

Equally urgent problems that must be dealt with by mankind are problems of environmental protection, the need to provide all countries with the gains of technological progress, the fight against dangerous diseases, and an efficient utilization of the riches of world oceans. Developments show that the solution of these problems requires that countries expand their cooperation.

The view is becoming increasingly widespread that the future of the nations of the world is linked with their increasing mutual economic dependence and with the internationalization of economic life. Socialism regards internationalization and mutual dependence of economic life as one of the main paths towards developing production forces and strengthening peace and cooperation among countries. That is why socialism advocates an all-round development of economic cooperation among nations, including countries with different socioeconomic systems, on the basis of equality, respect for national sovereignty, mutual advantage, and rejection of discrimination, as well as a thorough reconstruction of the world economy on democratic foundations.

Many politicians in the West do not link at all the intensification of economic rapprochement with the need to respect national sovereignty and acknowledge the equality of all countries of the world, nor with the further democratization of international relations.

However, the objective logic of the development of the international division of labor cannot be subordinated with impunity to the logic of military-political rivalry by turning the world markets into arenas of trade expansion and economic wars. It was, after all, because of their incompatibility with objective economic laws that the frequent attempts at isolating socialism in the world economy, at encircling the socialist countries with a technological cordon, and at subjecting them to a credit blockade or all kinds of "sanctions" have been unsuccessful. Relations of exploitation in the world economy must sooner or later give way to relations of genuine partnership.

PRAVDA CITES TURKISH PRESS ON NATO CESME SESSION

PM061545 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 6 Apr 84 First Edition p 5

[Own correspondent A. Filippov dispatch: "What Alarms Turkey"]

[Text] Ankara, 5 Apr -- Covering the NATO Nuclear Planning Group Session that has just ended in Cesme near Izmir, the Turkish mass media are devoting attention to the militarist nature of the speech by U.S. Defense Secretary Weinberger. It bristled with hackneyed phrases about the "mounting Soviet threat" and contained an appeal to the bloc's countries to develop and improve strategic nuclear missile weapon systems, including space systems.

At the same time the newspapers GUNAYDIN, CUMHURIYET, and others continue to write about what currently alarms broad strata of the Turkish public: The intention of Washington and NATO to site U.S. Pershing and cruise missiles on the country's territory. The evasive statements made in Cesme by both Turkish and Western representatives that no siting of U.S. nuclear missiles is planned do not satisfy those who are alarmed by the fate of Turkey and of peace in this region of the globe. The theme of the commentaries published in the newspapers is that there is no room for nuclear missiles on Turkish soil. Several leaders of Turkey's opposition bourgeois parties have resolutely stated that they are against the siting of U.S. "nuclear death" on the country's territory.

TROYANOVSKIY SPEAKS AT UN DEBATE ON NICARAGUA

PM060827 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 5 Apr 84 First Edition p 5

[Own correspondent A. Tolkunov report under the general heading: "Nicaragua Will Not Be Broken!"]

[Excerpts] New York, 4 Apr -- The UN Security Council, which was convened at Nicaragua's request, is continuing to discuss the situation in Central America. Those who spoke at the session submitted many items as evidence confirming the fact that Washington is waging an undeclared war against the Nicaraguan people.

Many delegates, including the representatives of France, Mexico, and other countries, condemned such terrorist acts as the mining of the waters around Nicaraguan ports and armed sorties by the Somozists, which are flagrant violations of international law.

Uncovering the reasons for the events taking place around Nicaragua, O.A. Troyanovskiy, the USSR's permanent representative to the United Nations, noted that the White House makes no secret of its main task, which it sees as that of making the Nicaraguan people leave the path of autonomous development and regaining undisputed control over that country, as well as over the whole of Central America. They demand unceremoniously that this sovereign state change its economic structure, political system, and foreign policy.

Such practical U.S. steps indicate that Washington has no interest in a political settlement in Central America and is deliberately pursuing a course of extending the conflict. These actions are a crude violation of the fundamental principles of international law and the UN Charter.

As for the Soviet Union, O.A. Troyanovskiy said in conclusion, it declares its support for the just cause of the Nicaraguan people, who are upholding their motherland's independence.

The speech by American representative J. Kirkpatrick, who clumsily attempted to justify the American policy of terrorism and intervention, was the height of hypocrisy. She could find nothing better to say than to accuse Nicaragua and a number of other countries belonging to the Nonaligned Movement of all the mortal sins.

However, these insinuations were fittingly rebuffed. The vast majority of the international community's representatives demanded an immediate end to all provocations against Nicaragua and called on the UN Security Council to adopt resolute measures to curb the international terrorists.

REAGAN FOREIGN POLICY GEORGETOWN SPEECH EVALUATED

PM090913 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 9 Apr 84 First Edition p 5

[TASS Report: "Hypocritical Statements"]

[Text] Washington April 8 -- President Reagan has made a speech on U.S. foreign and military policies at the current gathering of right-wingers, the National Leadership Forum, held under the aegis of the conservative Center for Strategic and International Studies at Georgetown University. The White House publicized his speech in advance as a program statement of the administration on a broad range of international problems. In actual fact, however, it boiled down to the repetition of the well-known aggressive elements of Washington's militarist foreign policy course.

The notorious "positions-of-strength" policy remains its cornerstone. President Reagan said bluntly that "peace through strength is not a slogan, it's a fact of life". Without strength there can be no effective diplomacy and negotiation, no reliable democracy or lasting peace, he philosophized. According to President Reagan, the chief accomplishment of his administration is the commenced implementation of the program for a massive "rearmament of America," the largest program in U.S. history, aimed at upsetting the existing military strategic balance and attaining military superiority over the Soviet Union. In the next five years more than two trillion dollars will be spent on the implementation of the program.

During President Reagan's stay in power from 1980 to 1984 the U.S. military spending, according to the White House, soared by 40 percent.

The President hypocritically alleged that the United States does not commit aggression "and occupies no foreign lands". However, this propaganda ploy cannot conceal the hard facts which testify to the opposite: tiny Grenada under the boot of U.S. occupation troops, the recent barbaric shelling of Lebanese soil, and Honduras which is occupied by the U.S. military. [Moscow TASS in English at 1510 GMT on 7 April in a similar report words this sentence as follows:

However, this propaganda ploy cannot conceal the hard facts which testify to the opposite: tiny Grenada under the boot of U.S. occupation troops, the recent barbaric shelling of Lebanese soil, U.S.-occupied Honduras which Washington is turning into a giant springboard for escalating armed interference in the affairs of the peoples of Central America.]

Reagan tried to pose as a "peace-maker", clearly speculating, in the year of the presidential election, on the sentiments of the Americans a majority of whom, as opinion polls show, oppose the nuclear arms race. He even tried to picture himself as a champion of the prevention of nuclear war, although it is common knowledge that the Pentagon's operational plans and concepts, endorsed by the President and the National Security Council, provides for the first nuclear strike and proceeds from the suicidal hopes for a victory in a thermonuclear war. Evidently it is not fortuitous that the Reagan administration stubbornly refuses to pledge on behalf of the United States not to be the first to use nuclear weapons.

The President again took up the grossly overused thesis that the United States stands for talks with the Soviet Union on medium-range missiles. However, it is an open secret that precisely the United States made it impossible to continue the Geneva talks on the limitation of nuclear arms in Europe, having started the deployment of Pershing II and cruise missiles in several Western European countries. It clearly follows from what Reagan said that the White House has no intention of removing first-strike U.S. missiles from Western Europe and will continue to thrust their further deployment on its NATO allies.

Moreover, the U.S. Administration believes that the problem of preventing the militarization of outer space, that is, preventing the arms race from being transferred to space, does not deserve to be a subject of negotiations at all. [The 1510 GMT TASS version at this point adds: The negative attitude to the discussion of such an important issue actually means that the U.S. Administration would like to turn outer space, in accordance with the Pentagon's plans, into a new site of the arms race.]

The U.S. maintains a destructive position on a number of other very important issues, the solution of which would largely promote an improved international climate and would clear the way for the far-reaching measures along the lines of restablishing control over armaments. The President among other things ruled out the possibility that the deployment of strategic first-strike MX missiles would be cancelled or that nuclear arsenals would be frozen under a groundless pretext that the implementation of such measures" would not bring the desired results."

The President openly tried to blame the Congress for the failures of the U.S. foreign policy. At the same time he called for "restored bipartisan support for the U.S. foreign policy." His attacks on Congress have drawn sharp comments.

Thomas O'Neill, the speaker of the House of Representatives, stated: "President Reagan should know that there is no substitute for truth. He chooses to forget the events in Lebanon and his own past statements. As for the U.S. people, they remember this and do not trust Reagan."

Senator E. Kennedy, who has called Reagan the "most dangerous President of the nuclear age," stated regarding the latter's speech: "It is an outrageous attempt to blame Congress for his foreign policy failure."

[The 1510 GMT TASS version ends the report: Thomas O'Neill, the speaker of the House of Representatives, said that the President should know that there is no substitute for truth. "He chooses to forget the events of Lebanon and his own past positions", Thomas O'Neill said. But the American people remember and do not trust Reagan.

[Senator Alan Cranston, deputy leader of the Democratic minority, said that the Americans have a militaristically-minded President who entrusts his troops with impossible missions.

[Senator Edward Kennedy who described Reagan as the most dangerous president of the nuclear age, made this comment: "President Reagan's speech is an outrageous attempt to blame Congress for his own failures in foreign policy". The present administation has failed to achieve a single important diplomatic agreement from the moment it came to power. The principles of more guns, more bombs and more bullets can in no way be a substitute for a consistent foreign policy in the Middle East, Central America or in relations with the Soviet Union.]

'Railed' Against Congressmen

LD070723 Moscow TASS in English 0600 GMT 7 Apr 84

[Text] Washington April 7 TASS -- President Reagan has once again railed against members of U.S. Congress who, in his view, hinder the administration's efforts in pursuing an openly adventurous course in the world arena.

The White House chief, in his speech at the Strategic and International Research Centre of Georgetown University, expressed particular displeasure with the position of the legislators who demand that the administration adopt constructive measures capable of curbing the nuclear arms race.

A nuclear freeze, renunciation of the production and deployment of qualitatively new systems of first-strike nuclear missile systems and moratorium on the deployment in Western Europe of cruise and Pershing II missiles were classed by Ronald Reagan as simplistic decisions tantamount nearly to a betrayal of the interests of the United States and its allies.

The President did not mince his words when demanding peremptorily that congressmen unconditionally support the administration's policy in Central America and the Middle East. He accused the (?Congress) of failing to learn from Vietnam lessons, the most important of which is, according to the President, that military force, used directly or indirectly, should remain part of American foreign policy.

REAGAN CALLS FOR STOCKPILING CHEMICAL WEAPONS

LD061834 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1750 GMT 6 Apr 84

[Text] As has already been reported, President Reagan of the United States has held a press conference which was relayed by television right across the entire United States. He used it to announce that the United States intends to present proposals on banning chemical weapons at the Geneva disarmament conference.

However, at the same time the U.S. President called for stockpiling chemical weapons in the United States itself, as a means of intimidating the USSR and, as he asserted, to ensure the success of future negotiations on the U.S. draft treaty.

BUSH ACCUSED OF FALSEHOODS ON CW BAN

LD061455 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1420 GMT 6 Apr 84

[Text] Moscow, 6 Apr (TASS) -- TASS political observer Vladimir Serov writes:

Washington is continuing to publicize intensively the new "peace initiative" on chemical weapons which has been announced by President Reagan. Speaking to Western European journalists in the "Euromet" television program, U.S. Vice President G. Bush engaged specially in an "explanation" of that "initiative." To all appearances, the need for such an "explanation" was dictated by the fact that concern at the American Administration's global militarist preparations -- including intensive U.S. preparations for a chemical war -- is growing throughout the world and particularly in Western Europe, which the United States is transforming into one of its largest arsenals of chemical armaments.

Striving to dispel this concern, G. Bush has attempted to create the impression that Washington is really hungry for talks on various aspects of disarmament, including talks on a ban on chemical weapons. "We hope that our proposal on chemical weapons will pave the way to a real dialogue," he proclaimed.

However, these declarative pronouncements were met with unconcealed skepticism by West European journalists, who had put fully legitimate questions to Bush: How can you expect the USSR to take seriously your proposal on a chemical weapons ban, if you state at the same time that you will not abandon your chemical arsenals? Do you really expect that the Soviet Union will agree to hold talks on the basis of a proposal, which you beforehand tie to the request put to Congress to give the "green light" to the production of a new generation of chemical weapons?

As was to be expected, Bush could not give intelligble replies to these questions. And what could he reply, when the Reagan administration has announced its intention to embark on a broad-scale increase of chemical weapons stockpiles from 3 to 5 million units and plans to spend up to $10 billion on the implementation of this program? What apart from empty phrases about the "high moral" position of Washington, could the American Vice President utter when the United States has shown the whole world its true "morals," using chemical weapons in the war against the peoples of Korea and Indochina, and quite recently in Grenada and El Salvador?

Attempting to justify Washington's dangerous militarist course, G. Bush has once again dragged out into the daylight the hackneyed argument about "Soviet military superiority." "If one side has a whole assortment of modern armaments and the other side has nothing," he asserted, "then you cannot call that the best position from the point of view of talks."

But who will believe that when the United States is adopting one multibillion-dollar program after another for the stepping-up of armaments, rejecting all peaceful initiatives by the Soviet Union? Who will believe this when the United States, which already has the largest arsenal of chemical weapons in the world, whose stocks, in the evaluations of specialists, exceed 150,000 tonnes, is nonetheless continuing to increase them at stepped-up rates? The falsehood of Mr Bush's "peace-loving" declarations becomes obvious in light of all these facts.

U.S. BEGINS CHEMICAL WEAPONS MODERNIZATION

LD062018 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1445 GMT 6 Apr 84

[From "The World Today" program presented by Viktor Mikheyev]

[Text] The American press today discusses Reagan's proposal to ban the production of chemical weapons. It is known, is it not, that the present U.S. Administration has already begun modernization of the chemical arsenal of the American forces, on which according to Senator Hatfield's estimate about $5 billion will be spent, while the American press write that it is even more -- $10 billion? Officials of the Washington Administration talk as if the United States has not produced chemical weapons for 15 years. However, it is known that at the present time there are 150,000 metric tonnes of nerve gas in the American forces, which significantly exceeds the requirement for the annihilation of the whole population of the world. Now talk has begun in America of ending the production of chemical weapons, while at the same time quite recently $124 million for the production of chemical weapons was allocated -- these are chemical weapons of a particularly barbaric variety, that is binary neuroparalytic ammunition.

U.S. SOLDIERS RECEIVE CHEMICAL WARFARE TRAINING

LD071348 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1900 GMT 6 Apr 84

[From "The World Today" program presented by Viktor Mikheyev]

[Text] Today, at the same time as the report of the U.S. President's statement on chemical weapons, a videoreport came in about soldiers of the U.S. Army being trained in chemical warfare.

The U.S. Army command has decided to expand the chemical warfare training program. Here, in a special training camp in Alabama, U.S. soldiers are being taught to use poisonous chemicals in simulated battle conditions. In the television reportage you've just seen, the U.S. commentator said that even if there is an agreement between the United States and the USSR to ban chemical weapons, the Pentagon will still train its troops in chemical warfare.

CRUISE MISSILE TESTS, DEVELOPMENT NOTED

PM061522 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 6 Apr 84 Second Edition p 3

[From "Own Information, TASS Reports": "Announcement by a U.S. Air Force Spokesman"]

[Text] A spokesman for the U.S. Air Force has announced the completion of the first of the two final tests of ground-launched cruise missiles. As a spokesman for the command of the test range at Dugway (Utah) announced, the tests took place in conditions "approximating to combat conditions." Earlier the U.S. Air Force had carried out 11 test launches of missiles of this type, 2 of which failed.

The United States is currently developing or producing a total of 11 types of cruise missiles. The LOS ANGELES TIMES recently reported the elaboration of a new modification of this type of weapon. About 12 such missiles will be sited on submarines. The modernization of B-52 strategic bombers is in full swing, so that each of them will be equipped with 20 cruise missiles. In all the Pentagon is planning to deploy about 30,000 ground-, air-, and sea-based cruise missiles.

TEST LAUNCH OF MINUTEMAN MISSILES REPORTED

LD091017 Moscow TASS in English 1949 GMT 9 Apr 84

[Text] New York April 9 TASS -- The UPI news agency reported quoting the Pentagon's official spokesman that the United States test launched two "Minuteman-3" intercontinental ballistic missiles from U.S. Air Force bases. After the launching, one of the missiles fell in the region of the Pacific atoll Kwajalein.

U.S. SPACE SHUTTLE CHALLENGER LAUNCHED

LD061739 Moscow TASS in English 1557 GMT 6 Apr 84

[Text] New York April 6 TASS -- A "Challenger" reusable spacecraft with a crew of five blasted off from Cape Canaveral (Florida) today. The flight's planned duration is six days. The flight programme provides for astronauts' [word indistinct] the craft and carrying out a number of experiments, incluidng those under the Pentagon's programme.

As is known, the flights of the reusable spacecrafts are an important element in the Reagan administration's plans to militarize space around the earth.

SOVIET EMBASSY IN TOKYO DENIES ESPIONAGE CHARGE

OW080610 Moscow in Japanese to Japan 1200 GMT 6 Apr 84

[By Moscow radio Tokyo correspondent Igor Vykhukhalev]

[Text] A press conference for Japanese journalists was held at the Soviet Embassy in Tokyo on 6 April, at which Counsellor Kotsyuba made public a Soviet Embassy statement on a report circulated by U.S. and Japanese media about First Secretary Viktor Okunev of the Soviet Embassy.

The statement reads as follows:

The report, which came from a U.S. special service agency source alleged that First Secretary Viktor Okunev of the Soviet Embassy in Japan kept in contact with a certain American who was arrested in the United States, is totally groundless and unfactual. That is proved fully by simply pointing out that the so-called indictment against the Soviet diplomat is being made only on the basis of his identification in a photo.

The attempt by the U.S. Secret Service to link the arrest of a U.S. citizen with the Soviet diplomat now stationed in Japan is a rude and dirty provocation carried out for ugly political purposes. A reference to the Soviet trade representative is also a provocative act clearly aimed at discrediting the Soviet organization which has made significant contributions to the development of Japan-USSR trade and economic exchanges.

The mastermind of this provocative act desires, above all else, to aggravate state relations between Japan and the Soviet Union and hamper promotion of a constructive political dialogue between the two countries. By kicking up this dirty racket, U.S. official sources have, at the same time, admitted that they are openly using Japanese territory for their spying and destructive activites. According to the U.S. side, the special U.S. intelligence agency, in which the aforementioned U.S. citizen allegedly worked for 7 years, has been engaged in such activities along with other organizations.

The Soviet side resolutely denies the groundless charge against the Soviet diplomat.

You have just listened to a report by Tokyo correspondent Vykhukhalev on a statement made public at the Soviet Embassy in Tokyo.

U.S. FAILS TO 'WREST' JAPAN TRADE CONCESSIONS

LD071114 Moscow TASS in English 1002 GMT 7 Apr 84

[Text] Washington April 7 TASS -- By TASS correspondent Maksim Kynazkov:

American-Japanese talks on trade in farming produce between the U.S. President's special trade representative William Brock and Japanese Minister of Farming, Forestry and Fisheries Shinjiro Yamamura ended in compete failure on Friday. According to Brock's assistant, who spoke on the completion of their latest round, the sides came to the unanimous agreement that their positions diverge on all issues.

The outcome of the talks was due to the Reagan administration's attempts to wrest from Tokyo unilateral concessions which would make considerably easier American economic expansion in Japan. According to AP news agency, Washington demanded that the Japanese authorities increase by 10,000 to 15,000 tonnes the annual import quotas for American beef and citrus. Brock himself put crude pressure to bear on the Japanese officials, saying that Japanese markets are yet insufficiently open for American commodities. He made it clear that unless Tokyo bows to dictate, Washington will not stop even at the toughest of measures.

According to the American press, the talks showed once again that the American authorities are seeking to resolve their economic problems at the expense of their partners on the capitalist market. Last year, the United States' foreign trade deficit reached 69 billion dollars; 21.7 billion dollars out of the sum fall on the deficit in trade with Japan. That is why the Reagan administration stops at nothing to check the offensive of its competitor.

It seems that the arm-twisting tactics did not bring results expected by the United States. The issue of trade in farming produce, THE WASHINGTON POST newspaper writes, remains the stumbling-block along the way toward settling numerous American-Japanese trade differences.

KARMAL EXTOLS DRA'S ECONOMIC, POLITICAL PROGRESS

PM081413 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 6 Apr 84 Second Edition p 3

[TASS report: "Solemn Ceremony"]

[Text] Kabul, 5 Apr -- A solemn graduation ceremony for students of the higher military college has been held in the Afghan capital. The ceremony was addressed by B. Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and chairman of the DRA Revolutionary Council.

He noted that, despite the onslaught by imperialist forces headed by the United States, and international reaction and the intensification of their undeclared war against the DRA, the Afghan people are moving forward along the path of important socioeconomic transformation. Democratic land and water reform is being successfully implemented, and there have been considerable achievements in the development of industry, trade, transport, and other national economic sectors. As a result of the party's economic policy there has been a perceptible rise in the population's living standard. There have been radical changes in Afghan society's political system, B. Karmal subsequently noted. The revolution carried out by the people under PDPA leadership created a new stage and Armed Forces that serve the interests of the people's masses. Mass social organizations are working fruitfully. Unity between the party and the people is the guarantee of the further progressive development and deepening of the revolutionary process. Highly rating the Soviet Union's fraternal assistance, B. Karmal stressed that the friendship between the USSR and the DRA guarantees that no intrigues by the imperialists or other reactionary forces will ever break the Afghan people.

AFGHAN NATIONAL FATHERLAND FRONT CONDEMNS U.S.

LD081429 Moscow TASS in English 1210 GMT 8 Apr 84

[Text] Kabul April 8 TASS -- The National Fatherland Front (NFF) of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan strongly condemns the aggressive actions by U.S.-headed international imperialism in the Middle East, in the Persian Gulf area and in other parts of the world. This is stated in a message to the Afghan people by the participants in the fourth plenary meeting of the NFF Central Council, held here. The message, unanimously approved by the members of the Central Council of this largest public organization of the DRA, expresses firm support for the consistent stand of the Soviet Union and other socialist countries aimed at preserving and strengthening international peace and at preventing a nuclear war. Members of the leading bodies, provincial and local councils of the NFF and representatives of the public organizations (?which) are members of the NFF took part in the plenum's work.

CIA SAID BEHIND DRUG TRAFFIC IN AFGHANISTAN

LD071358 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1900 GMT 6 Apr 84

[From "The World Today" program presented by Viktor Mikeyev]

[Text] Here is a report on Afghanistan. Support for the U.S. undeclared war against Afghanistan by the forces of international reaction has, in addition to its class causes, a criminal component.

We have learned that the northwestern provinces of Pakistan, where most Afghan revolutionaries are living, have become a major center for large-scale production of drugs, mainly heroin. There are about 100 laboratories there, each producing up to 100 kilograms of heroin a month. The Afghan counterrevolutionaries even appear to have outdone, in the amount they produce, the largest known center for the manufacture of narcotics -- the so-called golden triangle on Burma-Thailand border.

The Afghan counterrevolutionaries have now become one of the biggest suppliers of white death to the United States and Western Europe. A curious feature is that American and West European gangster syndicates are actively involved in this business. According to Western press reports, the Afghan counterrevolutionaries are carrying on their criminal business under supervision of the CIA. The production of drugs, and the traffic in them, is linked with the subversive activities of the U.S. spy department. A considerable proportion of the proceeds of the criminal business is being used to pay the mercenaries who are rampaging in Afghanistan.

PAKISTAN NEIGHBORS FEAR U.S. BASE PLANS

LD071756 Moscow World Service in English 1431 GMT 7 Apr 84

[Aleksandr Korolev commentary]

[Text] The military and political deal concluded by Washington and Islamabad in 1981 is often compared with an iceberg. Indeed, the tip of the iceberg is the $3,200 million that was promised in military and economic aid to Pakistan. The other part, carefully concealed from public view, is causing serious concern in neighboring countries. There are fears, and not without grounds, that new American military bases will now appear in South Asia. Not surprisingly, after offering Pakistan the above sum Washington politicians began to refer to America's relations with that country as strategic accord.

Who agrees with whom is no secret. It would be enough to see how obediently, taking their cue from Washington, the Pakistani leaders have behaved on every point that concerns the events over Afghanistan. During the Geneva talks between the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan and Pakistan one got the impression that the United States was present too, for although the talks were necessary, all too obviously they were conducted to all intents and purposes in vain. The United States does not want peace in the region. It needs tension and, as a high-ranking official of the Reagan administration has put it, it is prepared to fight on to the last Afghan. When certain progress suggested itself at the last round of the talks the American Secretary of State George Shultz arrived in Islamabad and lectured the military leaders in rather crude terms and obediently they backpedalled. In short the present phase of American-Pakistani relations ought to be called strategic obedience rather than strategic accord.

No less clearly this feature of Pakistan's relations with the United States has manifested itself in the way Pakistan has been playing the role of a springboard for the undeclared war against the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan. With the knowledge of the Pakistani authorities, more than 100 camps have been established in the northwest border areas of the country to train mercenary bands. Furthermore, according to THE WASHINGTON POST, the military administration has even agreed to detail its own special forces to help ship American weapons to the Afghan counterrevolutionaries.

And, last but not least, many analysts have noted that after receiving the American aid Pakistan has launched widespread military construction. It is expanding military airfields, establishing naval bases and building ammunition depots and electronic surveillance stations. The facilities clearly exceed the need of national defense. Who then will have control over them? Is it the Americans?

This question is causing a lot of concern among the people of Pakistan, but it appears that they'd better get braced for the worst. It looks sure that American military bases will appear in their country. The director of the Islamabad Institute for Strategic Studies, Noor Hussain, who is known to be close to the ruling circles, has said Pakistan should get still more American sophisticated weapons even if in return the Pentagon asks for bases on Pakistani soil. THE WASHINGTON POST has discussed the problem still more frankly. The military authorities in Pakistan, it said, have already agreed to permit American aircraft to use military bases in Pakistan should the need arise. In return the United States is giving Pakistan aid which is to add up to $3,200 million in the next 5 years. All told the American aid is a kind of payment for Pakistani obedience, and it is this part of the military and political deal between Washington and Islamabad that is being carefully guarded against public knowledge.

COMMODITY AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH PAKISTAN

BK080559 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 8 Apr 84

[Text] A commodity exchange agreement and several other documents were signed by Pakistan and the Soviet Union in Moscow. Under the documents signed the Soviet Union will supply machinery equipment and other commodities to Pakistan and will purchase cotton cloth and ready-made garments and other commodities of common use from Pakistan.

SRV DENOUNCES PRC 'ARMED PROVOCATION' AT BORDER

PM090958 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 7 Apr 84 First Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Condemnation of Subversive Activity"]

[Text] Hanoi 8 Apr -- The Foreign Ministry of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam made a statement denouncing a new armed provocation committed by the Chinese side on April 6 on the border with Vietnam in the area of the Lang Son Province.

This action, the statement points out, violates the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. It evidences the aggressive character of the expansionist and hegemonistic policy of Beijing ruling circles which, in word, declare their striving for peace while, in deed, step up subversive activities.

The Vietnamese people firmly denounce the Chinese side's criminal actions.

PRK REJECTS THAI CLAIM OF PRK, SRV 'INCURSIONS'

PM061122 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 5 Apr 84 First Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Fabrications Rejected"]

[Text] Phnom Penh, 4 Apr -- A spokesman for the PRK foreign minister has rejected the Thai side's claims about alleged "incursions into Thai territory by Kampuchean and Vietnamese troops." A statement issued here points out that armed gangs of Pol Potists and other Khmer reactionaries based on Thai territory have recently tried repeatedly to penetrate border regions of the PRK.

Fulfilling their obligations to defend the country's territorial integrity and the population's life and property, Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Army units, with the help of Vietnamese volunteers, have made strikes against the enemy in regions of Kampuchea which border on Thailand. The PRK Foreign Ministry spokesman put all the blame for the hostile actions toward Kampuchea on the Thai side, which in effect acts as an accomplice in the crimes of the Pol Potists and other Khmer emigre rabble.

PLACING THAILAND IN U.S. ORBIT WICKHAM TRIP AIM

PM061521 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 6 Apr 84 Second Edition p 3

[From "Own Information, TASS Reports": "Visits"]

[Text] New evidence of Washington's persistent desire to draw Thailand into the orbit of its global aggressive strategy was provided by the visit to that country by General J. Wickham, U.S. Army chief of staff, which has just ended. As the local press reports, during meetings with the Thai Armed Forces leadership the Pentagon's envoy again reaffirm reaffirmed U.S. readiness to give the Thai Army "all-around assistance." In particular, he announced the U.S. Congress decision to extend the training of Thai servicemen in U.S. military training establishments. In addition, Gen J. Wickham traveled to regions near the PRK border, where, as is known, the bases of the Khmer counterrevolutionary rabble -- including surviving Pol Pot supporters -- are located.

SOVIET-UK TRADE, ECONOMIC RELATIONS OUTLINED

PM090948 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 8 Apr 84 p 3

[From S. Pomerantsev feature under the rubric "We Answer Readers' Questions": "Obstacles on the Road of Cooperation"]

[Text] Please tell us about Soviet-British economic relations since the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe.

L.D. Buyanova, Uren City, Gorkiy Oblast

Unfortunately, it cannot be said that in the years since the All-European conference in Helsinki that USSR-British economic relations have developed along an ascending line. And that is not the Soviet side's fault.

Postwar Soviet-British relations reached their high point in the mid-seventies, which were marked by the growing process of relaxation of tension. In 1975 -- a few months before the Helsinki forum -- H. Wilson, the head of the Labor Government visited Moscow. Along with documents outlining a broad framework of political dialogue, long-term programs of economic, industrial, scientific, and technical cooperation were adopted and a credit agreement was signed. The activation of business ties had a visible result: In 5 years, mutual trade turnover dobuled and reached almost R2 billion in 1979. It is unquestionable that both the USSR and Britain benefited from this state of affairs.

Our country has invariably advocated the development of contacts in both the political and the economic spheres. However, the success and stability of cooperation naturally depend on the good will of both sides. Even under the Labor government the momentum that had been built up started to falter. And with the arrival in power in 1979 of M. Thatcher's Conservative government Soviet-British relations were reduced to a state of stagnation. The reason for this lies in the intention of the present British ruling circles to base relations with the Soviet Union solely on a "position of strength." The Tory cabinet, espousing Reagan's idea of a "crusade" against socialism, has repeatedly attempted to put obstacles in the way of contacts with the USSR.

So far as trade and business ties are directly concerned, the Conservative government, safeguarding the interests of British business, has not directly limited them. Thus, when Washington made attempts to wreck constuction of the Siberia-West Europe gas pipeline, Thatcher came to the defense of British firms which did not intend reneging on their contracts for delivering equipment to the USSR. In the last 2 years important decisions concerning the expansion and more active implementation of bilateral programs have been adopted by the Soviet-British Standing Commission on Scientific, Technical, Trade, and Economic Cooperation.

However, trade and business links require the proper political climate. And it is no accident that since the arrival in power of the Conservatives, the value of trade turnover between the USSR and Britain has dropped to R1.7 billion. Whereas 15 years ago London was our number one trading partner among the Western countries, it now only occupies ninth place.

Clearly the atmosphere of pressure, the Thatcher government's unconditional support for Washington's "strongarm" policy toward the socialist countries, and the siting of the new U.S. nuclear missiles in the British Isles by no means create a favorable basis either for maintaining international peace or for developing bilateral cooperation. Sober-minded British politicians and businessmen understand this too.

As for the USSR, it consistently pursues a line of comprehensively developing good and fruitful relations with Britain.

A good basis for this could be provided by realism, good will, consideration of each other's legitimate interests, and all the positive experience amassed in Soviet-British relations. Soviet trade organizations invariably advocate expanding mutually advantageous ties with British partners. Our country also retains a firm interest in scientific, technical, cultural, and other types of cooperation. We are convinced that it is cooperation and not confrontation that corresponds to the interests of the Soviet and British peoples and helps to strengthen international peace and security.

FRG ANTIMISSILE MOVEMENT, DEBATES EXAMINED

PM081351 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 6 Apr 84 First Edition p 4

[Own correspondent Yu. Yakhontov dispatch: "'Missile Spring' on the Rhine"]

[Text] Bonn, April -- Spring has come to the land of West Germany. The first "missile" spring. Outwardly everything seems to have remained as before: Birds are singing in gardens and parks after their winter silence, and the sun has a tender warmth. In places, buds have already burst, and delicate greenery has begun to cover the bushes and trees. Tidy-minded householders are touching up their housefronts, fences, and benches which have faded during the fall and winter. The scraping of scrapers and the hissing of spray guns carry from the boatyards of the Rhine. There motorboats are being renovated and preparations made for the upcoming boating season. In short, everything is proceeding as in previous years.

But What About Sovereignty?

At the same time something new has been added to the traditional signs of spring on the Rhine. Perhaps people have grown more serious. The at times devil-may-care tone of certain newspapers has changed somewhat. The name Mutlangen -- the very town where the American base housing the first battery of Pershing II's deployed in the FRG is located and where peace champions spent all the fall and winter organizing antiwar demonstrations and blockades -- is appearing incresasingly frequently in their pages and on television screens. Even though dense clumps of trees will soon hide from sight the emplacements with their lethal first-strike weapons, people understand that the missiles will not disappear by themselves, and with them will remain the tremendous danger posed by their very presence on West German soil. And this danger will grow: A new consignment of Pershing II's will arrive soon, and preparatory work on the installation of cruise missiles will begin in April.

Just try, FRG citizen, to convince yourself of the sincerity of the slogan "Peace Through Fewer Weapons," with which the Christian Democratic Union -- the chief party of the coalition now ruling -- tried to lure people in last year's elections. For as a result, the FRG's inhabitants have been turned, probably for the first time so clearly, into the Pentagon's "nuclear hostages." "But in former times it was believed that peoples whose destinies are controlled by other states are colonial peoples," Egon Bahr, the Social Democratic Party's expert on disarmament issues, wrote in a recent issue of the weekly DER SPIEGEL.

Propaganda Maneuvers

In the Federal Republic Government representatives assiduously avoid talking on the "missile topic" (you don't mention rope in the home of a hanged man). The question of deployment -- or rather, of the pernicious consequences for the FRG and for peace in Europe of deploying the Pershing and cruise missiles -- is deliberately pushed into the background as being a secondary, nonurgent issue.

"If this is the policy of an ostrich hiding its head in the sand," a well-known Bonn jurist said to me, "it is certainly not a most farsighted policy."

But someone here has only, nonetheless, to mention Pershings and he at once gets the stereotype answer -- and your correspondent got it also from the federal chancellor -- that the parties represented in the government got a majority in last year's Bundestag elections, and so they were "given a mandate" for deployment.

There is nothing more spurious than this assertion in the face of the irrefutable fact that three-fourths of the FRG population clearly voiced a protest against the missiles' deployment. The government, it is true, endeavored "not to notice" that referendum, which was, in point of fact, an antimissile referendum. Nevertheless, it understands what is what. Hence its desire to secure an indulgence and, at the same time, make political capital out of propaganda slogans and, in particular, out of calls for talks between the United States and the USSR. But the attempt to keep aloof is futile. For the Bonn leadership cannot get away from its involvement in NATO's "two-track decision" and its responsibility for consenting to the deployment of Pershings and cruise missiles.

Chancellor H. Kohl's recent visit to Washington -- not so much its essence as its outward appearance -- was aimed at demonstrating to the West German population that its government had certainly not stood stiffly to attention before Washington. It even ventures, so it turns out, to give "advice" and "recommendations" to the transatlantic President and seeks a dialogue between the United States and the Soviet Union.

Of course, this is an enforced tactic of the Bonn ruling circles. The antimissile demonstrations last fall and winter stirred up broad people's masses and showed those who gave the final "go-ahead" on the Rhine to the American missiles' deployment that they would not find it so easy to get away with their deal with Washington at the expense of their own people's security and to the detriment of all-European detente. So, they had urgently to seek suitable propaganda moves -- it was necessary to calm public opinion, which was really alarmed. And it was then that more frequent calls began to be made for a dialogue between Moscow and Washington.

These calls are overtly hypocritical. For Bonn knows the essence of the matter: The Geneva talks were wrecked by Washington, which had issued the order for the transfer of Pershing II and cruise missiles to West Europe. By that act it canceled out the chief and sole purpose of the talks -- the reduction of nuclear arms on the European Continent. So, Bonn should address the United States. It is precisely from the United States that the FRG together with the other West European allies should try to secure a return to the situation which existed prior to the start of deployment. However, this is not being done. On the contrary, the facts indicate the the United States and its NATO partners which gave their consent to the Pershings' deployment certainly do not intend to remove the obstacle which they themselves have erected in the way of talks.

However, contrary to the forecasts of the missile champions, millions of FRG citizens have not reconciled themselves to the deployment of Pershing II and cruise missiles on their soil. The struggle for deliverance from them knows no pause. "The danger of a nuclear conflict under the conditions of the deployment of new American nuclear missiles, which has begun, has not diminished but increased, which means that opposition must be stepped up," H. Mies, chairman of the German Communist Party, declared at a press conference in Bonn.

Resistance Increasing

An earnest, profound interpretation of what has happened and a search for the most effective ways to struggle against the nuclear threat in the future are now taking place in the ranks of the peace movement.

These processes are embracing more and more sections of the population. Regrouping is taking place in the millions-strong army of opponents of "arms upgrading" before the start of a new offensive against the forces of militarism and reaction.

West German peace champions, who number in their ranks representatives of very different parties -- Social Democrats and Communists, "Greens," and even Christian Democrats -- nonparty people, trade union members, scientists, doctors, jurists, and even Bundeswehr officers and soldiers, have formulated clear and precise slogans: "Halt deployment! Remove from the FRG the missiles already installed. Resume talks on medium-range weapons!" Spring "peace marches" will soon set out along the country's roads under these slogans. Participants in antiwar demonstrations will hold rallies in dozens of cities.

It is expected that this year's demonstrations will be of a still more cohesive and mass nature than last year. And this is understandable. While there was no deployment, the danger associated with the Pershing and cruise missiles was recognized but was not felt so clearly. But when the Pershing II's were already on West German soil, that danger became real. The threat of war has increased, and this is being said increasingly frequently in the press and at rallies and meetings. Another dangerous aspect of the appearance of new American nuclear missiles in the FRG and certain other West European countries is also being raised increasingly frequently. Deployment -- in itself a serious concession to the transatlantic militarists -- could give rise to a U.S. desire to limit West Europe's independence still further. As a result, the great gains which the countries on the continent have achieved during the postwar period and particularly during the years when the policy of easing tension was the dominant trend in international affairs will be under threat of liquidation. However, the advantages provided by detente are obvious in the West to everyone who has not been blinded by anticommunism.

Support for New Initiatives

This is why the constructive comprehensive program advanced by the Soviet Union for ensuring lasting peace on the planet has elicited such a great response from very different FRG citizens. Today West German newspapers give prominence to an account of K.U. Chernenko's reply to the appeal from leading figures of the Socialist International, which reaffirms the Soviet people's will to end the arms race.

The Soviet proposals have been perceived here as confirming the continuity of the realistic policy of the land of the soviets of resolving urgent key problems of the present time -- preventing nuclear war, curbing the arms race, and turning the course of events toward the strengthening of peace and the relaxation of tension. The West German public has especially paid attention to the fact that the implementation of the Soviet proposal to make relations among powers which possess nuclear weapons obey certain norms would in practice give the green light to a turn away from confrontation toward improving the international climate all over the world. It was no accident that the newspaper FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE, mouthpiece of the FRG big bourgeoisie, perceived in the Soviet leader's statement support for the idea of the further development of international cooperation, proceeding from the premise that detente has deep roots.

The USSR's new peace initiatives -- realistic and concrete -- have served, as it were, to accelerate the processes already taking place in the minds of West German citizens. There has recently been ever increasing critiicism of the essentially adventurist strategic concept of the United States and NATO, which are pushing Europeans to the brink of nuclear catastrophe. "The idea that only the threat of total mutual destruction can strengthen peace, taking into account the scale of accumulation of nuclear arsenals, perturbs seriously minded people nowadays," the Bonn newspaper GENERAL ANZEIGER points out.

Reflecting the sentiments which now predominate here, the recent congress of southern Hesse Social Democrats demanded the creation of a nuclear-free zone in Europe and a zone with a reduced concentration of arms at the center of the continent. The congress unanimously advocated that the NATO countries renounce the first use of nuclear weapons. P. Glotz, federal secretary of the Social Democratic Party of Germany [SPD], proposed a radical revision of the NATO "flexible response" strategy so as to replace it with a "purely defensive concept," and suggested making the North Atlantic Bloc's armed forces -- in terms of their structure and armaments -- "incapable of attacking, yet with an undoubted capacity for defense." This demand, which in no way infringes the NATO countries' security, was immdediately given a hostile reception by the extreme right flank of West German society. Springer's DIE WELT could not restrain itself in its polemical fury and blurted out the militarist circles' intentions: they do not want an army that is only capable of defending itself; they require an army to wage a "mobile war." In other words, an army of aggression.

H.-J. Vogel, chairman of the SPD parliamentary faction, recently declared that the "missile debate" has altered the awareness of millions of Germans; it would be a mistake to think that this debate is over.

This is indeed so. The "missile debate" and the struggle against the missiles are growing. The "missile spring" on the Rhine promises to be tempestuous.

USSR-NETHERLANDS SHIPPING PANEL SIGNS PROTOCOL

PM061427 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 6 Apr 84 Morning Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Ties Strengthening"]

[Text] The Hague, 4 Apr -- The 8th session of the joint Soviet-Netherlands shipping commission has been held here. During the session the sides exchanged views on questions of cooperation between the USSR and the Netherlands in that sphere. There was a discussion of the state of freight shipments within the framework of bilateral trade, the work of joint shipping lines, and a number of problems relating to international shipping.

The session was held in a businesslike and constructive atmosphere and ended with the signing of a protocol.

END OF SWEDISH SUB SEARCH LINKED TO U.S. SUB TESTS

LD072103 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1930 GMT 7 Apr 84

[Eduard Kovalev commentary]

[Text] General Ljung, the commander in chief of the Swedish Armed Forces, admitted in an interview with the Swedish telegraph agency that the search for unidentified foreign submarines in Swedish territorial waters had brought no results. By his statement, General Ljung in essence repudiated the malicious anti-Soviet propaganda campaign which has been waged for the past several months by some organs of the Swedish bourgeois press, the foreign affairs journalist Eduard Kovalev notes.

The enemies of Swedish-Soviet good-neighborliness have been trying to assert that the USSR has been, allegedly, sending its submarines into Swedish territorial waters on espionage missions. Even some so-called "eyewitnesses" were found who had seen the periscopes of unidentified submarines off the shores of Sweden, particularly close to the town of Karlskrona.

All these concoctions have been used by right-wingers to exacerbate anti-Soviet feeling and justify the position of those Swedish circles who have long wished to force the Government of Sweden to shift closer to NATO in the international arena and to draw Sweden into implementing Washington's militarist designs in northern Europe.

There is no doubt that the aim of compromising as much as possible the idea, which is popular in the Scandinavian countries, of establishing a nuclear-free zone in northern Europe was also being pursued. Now, however, General Ljung declares that after 2 months of searching there has been no success in finding convincing evidence of the presence of foreign submarines in the Karlskrona region. Thus yet another anti-Soviet fabrication has been exploded.

However, another explanation for the rapid and resolute termination of the search for unidentified submarines in the Swedish reefs on the Baltic suggests itself. Quite recently in the United States, apparently thanks to an oversight by the Pentagon, one of the television companies showed reportage on minisubmarines, adapted for use in shallow waters, now undergoing testing by the United States. Let us ask the simple question which apparently explains the hasty termination of the search in the Karlskrona region: Was it not American minisubmarines which were being tested in the Baltic off the Swedish shores? Evidently only the Pentagon can give a reliable answer to this. In the meantime, the Swedish military authorities, in order to avoid a possible scandal which would erupt if U.S. submarines were found, have ordered an end to the search for them.

NATO 'Test Runs'

LD062027 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1445 GMT 6 Apr 84

[From "The World Today" program presented by Viktor Mikheyev]

[Text] For a number of years now the official propaganda of NATO countries have provided the public with disinformation that, allegedly, Soviet submarines have been cruising underwater near the Swedish coast. This has been disproved many times by officials and others of Sweden and other countries, but nevertheless they repeat it.

An interesting report has come in today exposing the propaganda lie of the NATO special services. The Swedish paper NORSKENSFLAMMAN has published an article which says NATO submarines carry out regular test runs near neutral Sweden. For several years West German submarines have been tested in the depths of the Skaggerak Straits, only several tens of kilometers from the Swedish coast. According to the Swedish press, such activity by NATO submarines is provocative and is counter to the interests of strengthening stability in the Baltic and the straits adjoining it. Thus it is not Soviet submarines but NATO submarines that are near the shores of Sweden.

CPSU DELEGATION RETURNS FROM NORWAY'S CP CONGRESS

PM061123 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 5 Apr 84 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Delegation Returns"]

[Text] A CPSU delegation consisting of V.N. Ptitsyn, member of the CPSU Central Committee and first secretary of Murmansk CPSU Obkom (leader of the delegation), and V.S. Shaposhnikov, deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee International Department, returned to Moscow from Oslo 3 April after taking part in the 18th Norwegian Communist Party Congress.

FINNISH PREMIER SORSA INTERVIEWED ON USSR TIES

PM061308 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 5 Apr 84 p 3

[SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA interview with Finnish Prime Minister K. Sorsa: "Strengthening the Spirit of Helsinki"]

[Text] Question: Mr Prime Minister, what social and economic significance do trade and economic ties with the Soviet Union in general and in the prevailing world market conditions in particular have for Finland?

Answer: Trade and economic ties between Finland and the USSR have been developing purposefully for several decades now. In recent years trade with the USSR has come to account for nearly one-fourth of Finland's foreign trade. The trade is characterized by long-term supplies and a relatively stable structure. For Finland a big part is played by the fact that, although lacking mineral fuel resources of our own, we are able to establish our oil and other energy provision on the basis of long-term supplies from the USSR. For its part, the Soviet Union is buying various goods from Finland, including ships on a relatively long-term basis.

Aside from trade, I want to draw attention to cooperation in the construction of facilities, as a result of which Finland has seen the construction of, for example, a metallurgical plant, two nuclear power stations, and a gas pipeline. And all these facilities have expanded and strengthened the foundations of the Finnish national economy. Therefore, we are planning the contruction of further similar facilties. In recent years cooperation in the construction facilities on USSR territory has also acquired great significance.

Our exports to the USSR enable us to make use of our most abundant "natural resource," that is, Finnish labor. Major long-term export to the USSR is providing work for our machine building industry, shipbuilding, forestry, consumer goods industry, food production, and construction.

Bearing in mind the present world market situation, trade and the system of trade between Finland and the USSR can be regarded as a factor that increases Finnish economic stability. It must also be borne in mind that fuel and energy now constitute a very substantial proportion of Finnish imports from the USSR and the prices of petroleum products on the world market have been fluctuating. This has created certain problems in recent years. We have had to rapidly increase our exports when there have been price rises. However, recently, prices have fallen and this has begun to limit our opportunities for exports to the USSR. We believe that the question of increasing and diversifying imports from the USSR is very important in terms of our trade relations.

Question: What part are the new forms of cooperation, above all production sharing, playing in the development of economic and industrial ties between the USSR and Finland?

Answer: The significance of the new forms of cooperation -- cooperation in the construction of facilities, production sharing, and production specialization -- is constantly increasing, alongside traditional trade. Production sharing is of interest to Finnish firms in particular because they see it as an opportunity to expand their production and, at the same time, specialize in the production of units that suit our workforce. I imagine that production sharing will strengthen and diversify economic ties between Finland and the USSR even more. At the same time, it must be said that this new form of cooperation is exceedingly complex and requires meticulous preparation by both sides and familiarization with one another's conditions to ensure that the results live up to expectations.

Among the most promising projects being worked on at the moment I would mention, in particular, paper-making machines special railroad cars, automatic telephone exchanges, and nuclear icebreakers. If all these projects are implemented on the planned scale, "annual turnover" in production sharing will reach several hundred million rubles.

Question: What do you think is the political significance of cooperation between the USSR and Finland in the present tense international situation?

Answer: It is true that recent years have seen a very negative trend in the development of the international situation. Finland, which in 1975 took it upon itself to organize the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, is keeping an anxious eye on this development. It is also doing its utmost to implement the principles enshrined in the Final Act. In our cooperation with the USSR this means an active desire to develop trade and economic cooperation in particular. The results seem to me to be very promising. I think this is practical confirmation of the positive fruits produced by peaceful coexistence and contacts between two countries with different social systems. We in Finland hope that this active development of economic and other ties will strengthen also among the other countries that participated in the Helsinki conference.

IZVESTIYA COVERS USSR-FINNISH TREATY JUBILEE

PM061423 [Editorial Report] Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian on 6 April 1984 in its Morning Edition carries on page 5 a 1,500-word Helsinki dispatch by IZVESTIYA own correspondent N. Ivanov entitled "More Than Partners." The report is pegged to the 36th anniversary of the Soviet-Finnish treaty of Friendship, Cooperation, and Mutual Assistance and describes a visit to an enterprise in Tampere, stressing its trade contacts with the Soviet Union. The report concludes with a passage on the importance of the 1948 treaty which, Ivanov says, was a "turning-point in relations between the USSR and Finland and an important milestone in the setting up of peaceful cooperation in northern Europe. The document was an expression of the Soviet and Finnish peoples' desire to base their relations on the principles of peaceful coexistence between states with different social systems."

SOVIET NAVAL SQUADRON TO VISIT LIBYA 10-14 APR

LD061631 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1400 GMT 6 Apr 84

[Text] A group of Soviet naval ships, consisting of the cruiser Zhdanov and the anti-submarine ship Sderzhanny, commanded by Rear Admiral Selivanov will, according to agreement, make an official friendly visit to the Libyan port of Tripoli during the period from 10 to 14 April.

KING HUSAYN CALLS FOR SOVIET ROLE IN MIDEAST

LD080933 Moscow TASS in English 0907 GMT 8 Apr 84

[Text] Amman April 8 TASS -- Israel's withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories and the restoration of the legitimate rights of the Arab people of Palestine are indispensable conditions for a just and lasting Middle East settlement, King Husayn of Jordan has stated here. He condemned the policy which the United States pursues in the Middle East, and emphasised that the policy enabled Israel to create such a situation in the occupied Arab territories which is a prelude to their annexation.

King Husayn declared for the Soviet Union's indispensable participation in all efforts aimed at restoring peace in the region.

USSR, EGYPT EXPECTED TO RESUME RELATIONS

LD070841 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0812 GMT 7 Apr 84

[Text] Amman, 7 (Apr) -- Quoting informed sources in Cairo today, the Jordanian newspaper AR-RA'Y report that "the USSR and Egypt will resume relations shortly."

According to these sources, as reported by the newspaper, some improvement has developed in the relations between the USSR and Egypt and that diplomatic relations will be resumed and military cooperation reactivated shortly."

Within the last month President Husni Mubarak approved the renewal of trade exchange agreement between Egypt and the USSR. The agreement was signed in the seventies. Trade visits also were exchanged in the various fields.

It should also be remembered that the Soviet deputy foreign trade minister visited Cairo toward the end of last year.

STURUA ON 5TH ANNIVERSARY OF CAMP DAVID

PM061249 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 5 Apr 84 Morning Edition p 5

[Melor Sturua article: "Instructive 'Jubilee'"]

[Excerpts] Camp David is in ruins. This means, on the one hand, the failure of the hopes and plans which were linked with it in Washington and Tel Aviv, and, on the other, the exposure of its real anti-Arab essence in the eyes of the Near East peoples and indeed of the entire public.

The interests of the Arab peoples and of Washington are based on different values and different principles. You only need to open the blue leather file, which contained the Camp David agreements before the signing ceremony, to see this for yourself.

Washington propaganda, despairing of fitting the Arab world into this file as though into a Procrustean bed, "justifies itself" by the fact that 1984 is election year in the United States and therefore politicians seeking elected posts -- from the President downwards -- must court the Jewish community because they need votes and the Zionist lobby because they need dollars. When the election year is over and everything returns to normal, Washington will again become "objective" and again turn to face the needs of the Arab world.

Blessed is he who believes! Of course, the election fever lends its own specific character to the behavior of the inhabitants of Washington's corridors of power. (For example, the fuss in Congress over the location of the U.S. Embassy in Israel.) But matters are not essentially changed one iota by this. The election fever merely emphasizes even more the political priorities of the U.S. ruling circles and the cynicism with which they seek to implement them.

The more clearly Arab countries realize this, the more opposition to Washington grows there. In all spheres, from the military to the diplomatic. "U.S. policy in the Near East is paralyzed," THE WASHINGTON POST writes. On the administration's admission, the paper continues, "it no longer hopes to achieve even modest progress on the Near East peace initiative put forward by Reagan in September 1982." But the whole point is that the essence of this essence is neither progressive nor peaceful. Its essence is the assertion of U.S. domination in the Near East with the active assistance of its vassal, Israel.

Indeed, it is by no means a jubilee mood which reigns in Washington now. And Tel Aviv, is not in a mood for festivity either. Shamir's government is tottering. New parliamentary elections have been scheduled. Dissatisfaction with military adventures and economic disorders is growing in the country. The architects of Camp David, Carter and Brzezinski, the retired "pillars of diplomacy" Kissinger and Sisco, and certain other political "pundits" are advising Reagan to recognize the failure of the revival of the plans to involve even so-called moderate Arab regimes in a system of separate deals with Israel. They note that U.S. influence in the Arab East has "slipped back" and advise resorting to wait-and-see tactics, that is, wearing down rather than taking by storm, gradually establishing a status quo "fraught" with the possibility of a new As-Sadat.

Now is the time to touch on what Egypt obtained from Camp David apart from the infertile sands of the Sinai Desert. In the political sense, it got isolation, and in the economic sense stagnation. According to data of the Egyptian National Center for Social Research, 40 percent of Egypt's population lives below the official poverty line. The cost of consumer goods and of services has increased 300 percent in the last 2 years alone. The country's foreign debt has reached the astronomical figure of $27 billion. These are just some of the fruits of As-Sadat's "open door" policy and the Camp David snares. "The Israelis get money and spend it as they wish," Egyptian officials complain. "But we are told how we must use this aid," a REUTER correspondent from Cairo reports.

The political isolation and economic crisis are aggravated by Egypt's military involvement in U.S. strategic plans, and not only in the Near East. Being a bridgehead for the "Rapid Deployment Force" is not just an unenviable but also a dangerous role. The recent events involving Sudan too reaffirmed this yet again.

Time is a stern teacher. The 5 years which have elapsed since the signing of the Camp David agreements have cleared up many points for the Egyptians. As the newspaper AL-AHALI writes, "the overwhelming majority of the Egyptian people reject the Camp David 'normalization' of relations with Israel."

This is a natural reaction to the policy of aggression and expansion being pursued by Tel Aviv. Egypt's people desire peace, but do not want peace in the Israeli fashion, insisting instead on a genuine and just settlement in the Near East." Camp David never corresponded with Egypt's national interests, and after the establishment of "strategic cooperation" between the United States and Israel it was emasculated even in a formal sense. The Egyptian newspaper ASH-SHA'B is right when it writes that "the United States cannot be relied on in war or peace."

There was a meeting in Cairo quite recently under the slogan of renunciation of the Camp David agreements. "The documents signed by As-Sadat are by no means divine revelation which passed down from Heaven to the Egyptians," the meeting's participants said. Everybody who was present 5 years ago at the act of signing the Camp David deal on the White House's north lawn can confirm this. Not for nothing were the marquees in which the singed agreements were "toasted" erected with money from giants of the military-industrial complex. They paid. They also called the tune. There was no "divine revelation" here.

On the 5th anniversary of Camp David, there were no marquees and no music on the White House's north lawn. Camp David has departed this life. And yet we must always bear in mind that a putrefying corpse is highly dangerous.

U.S.-ISRAELI EXERCISES THREAT TO SYRIA

PM060948 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 6 Apr 84 Morning Edition p 1

[Own correspondent Ye. Korshunov dispatch "Washington Is Threatening"]

[Text] Beirut -- Washington has no intention of giving up its "military presence" around Lebanon. This has been once again confirmed by the Israeli newspaper HA'ARETZ, which reported that joint U.S.-Israeli maneuvers are planned for April, during which the interaction of U.S. and Israeli forces is to be practiced.

The plans for the joint maneuvers were discussed by high-ranking representatives of Washington and Tel Aviv back in the winter. Provision is made for them in the agreement on the further development of U.S.-Israeli strategic cooperation in the Near East. Beirut newspapers are again drawing attention to the fact that U.S. Secretary of State G. Shultz is critical of people in the United States who propose to lay stress on "political solutions" instead of "military solutions" in Lebanon.

The U.S. secretary of state actively supports Tel Aviv's constantly increasing aggressiveness against Syria. The rulers of the Zionist state make bellicose threats against Syria daily, declaring that Israel "will not tolerate a war of attrition" in the Al-Biqa' Valley and "will, if necessary, adopt a radical solution." Over the last 2 days the situation on the Syrian-Israeli front in the Al-Biqa' Valley has become extremely tense and continues to exacerbate. Israeli heavy artillery is shelling Syrian positions and population centers in the valley. Syrian artillery is returning the fire.

ADF ON STATE OF ALERT FOLLOWING ISRAELI REMARKS

LD062057 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1430 GMT 6 Apr 84

[From the "Window on the Arab World" program presented by Aleksey Zlatorunskiy]

[Text] Schools have been closed in the Al-Biqa' Valley, some institutions have stopped working, and a state of alert has been declared in the Syrian forces working within the Arab Deterrent Force.

The reason for these precautionary measures is the flagrant threats directed to Syria by the Zionist leaders and their American protectors. What draws attention in particular are the frank remarks by Israeli Defense Minister Moshe Arens: Tel Aviv does not exclude the possibility of an attack on Syria. Such threats have also been made by General Sagi, director of Israeli military intelligence. The concentrated shelling of the Al-Biqa' Valley by the Israeli occupiers for 48 hours also indicates the gravity of the situation. Sending the American AWACS aircraft to Egypt under the pretext of taking part in the Egyptian Army maneuvers along the Libyan border should also be viewed with caution. It is well known that the Pentagon always sends its AWACS aircraft to areas where an act of aggression in planned and also to the Israeli forces. [sentence as heard] These aircraft provide the Zionists with intelligence information and correct the fire of their guns and aircraft. Israel justifies its actions by saying that it intends to punish the Syrians for their support to what it describes as terrorists -- in other words the Arab liberation struggle in the occupied land.

However, it is axiomatic that this is no more than a pretext because Tel Aviv and Washington do not forgive Syria for its role in the abrogation of 17 May 1983 Lebanese-Israeli agreement, which destroyed the plans of the United States and Israel in turning Lebanon into a feudal estate for themselves and a military-political bridgehead.

Nevertheless, and as those who follow up say, the attempt at revenge through a new military adventure could cost its perpetrators dearly. Is not the experience of the failure of the U.S.-Israeli aggression in Lebanon and the disgraceful end of thousands of soldiers and officers who were killed -- Americans, French, Italians, and Israelis -- sufficient indication of that. However, Washington and Tel Aviv stubbornly refuse to learn the Lebanese lesson.

New Campaign of Threats

LD061138 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0930 GMT 6 Apr 84

[Leonid Rassadin report from Cairo]

[Text] Israel has unleashed a new campaign of threats in relation to Syria. This campaign has been joined by highly-placed officials, including Arens, the chief of the military department. According to Israeli radio, Arens has again threatened Syria with certain military reprisals. He made this statement during an inspection trip to forward positions of the Israeli occupationist army in the eastern Lebanese Al-Biqa' Valley. Last Sunday, for the first time in recent months, Israeli artillery subjected a number of regions of the Al-Biqa', which are under the control of Syrian subunits of the Arab Defense Forces in Lebanon, to mass shelling. It is also reported that the Tel Aviv command is transferring additional tanks and guns to the front lines.

The forcing of a situation of militaristic frenzy within Israel itself is accompanied by increased preparations for joint U.S.-Israeli military maneuvers. The informed Israeli paper HA'ARETZ reports that these maneuvers are to take place next month. Attention has also been attracted by the increasingly frequent calls to the Israeli port of Haifa by vessels of the U.S. 6th Fleet. In the opinion of many Arab observers, the present military threat of Israel in relation to Syria and the growth of U.S.-Israeli strategic cooperation are evidence of new aggressive schemes of imperialist forces in the New East.

ADDITION TO KUNA ON BRUTENTS WARNING TO ISRAEL

Kuwait KUNA in Arabic at 1110 GMT on 6 April carried a reopener to its 0900 GMT report on an interview with Karen Brutents, deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committe International Department, which was published on pages H 1-2 of the 6 April Soviet Union DAILY REPORT. The following should be added to the end of page H 2:

The high-ranking Soviet official expressed his hope for a quick breakthrough in the Lebanese crisis, and at the same time affirmed his government's rejection of any attempt to link Israel's withdrawal from Lebanon to a Syrian withdrawal. He said: "We believe that the presence of the Israeli [as received] forces in southern Lebanon was an inevitable result of the Israeli aggression. We also believe that linking the question of occupation with other matters aims to prolong the problem and the Lebanese people's suffering."

The Israeli occupation affects national presitge, he said, "and hence it should be dealt with above all differences and conflicts. We support any action by the Lebanese people to resist this occupation."

He expressed his belief that it is essential to draw the attention of world public opinion to the question of the Israeli occupation "because Israel and the forces behind it want to secure silence on this matter and then impose it as a fait accompli. For this reason, we must invoke the UN resolutions on Lebanon, including Resolutions 508 and 509, which were unanimously adopted by everyone including the Americans. It is essential that these resolutions be implemented and that silence not be maintained concerning them or the aggressors."

Regarding the situation within the PLO, Brutents said that any rift within the organization should be avoided and that the PLO should adhere to its national line of opposing imperialism.

He said that the PLO had faced some internal and external difficulties following the Israeli invasion of Lebanon in the summer of 1982. "But the most important conflict took place following Yasir 'Arafat's visit to Cairo and the adoption of some steps which contravened resolutions adopted earlier by the Palestine National Council. Some of the Palestinian organizations described these moves as dangerous steps threatening the organization itself as they are forcing it to retract from its line of struggle."

Brutents expressed his belief that the rift could be avoided by a return to the principles of the PLO which aim to achieve the national rights of the Palestinian people. He said that "the PLO has won worldwide recognition as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people because it has pursued a line opposed to imperialism and expressed the national interests of the Palestinian people. To safeguard the PLO, it should uphold the principles that brought all this recognition to it."

Asked if there was any intention to invite 'Arafat to visit Moscow, Brutents said "there is no ban on his visits. This is not our way. I believe that everything depends on the development of conditions within the ranks of the Palestinian resistance movement. We will define our position toward all questions including 'Arafat's visit in the light of the interests of the Palestinian movement and its national unity."

Regarding relations with Egypt, Brutents said that they were active on economic and trade levels. As to the political level, the matter was more complicated "because our opposition to the Camp David accords and process has not changed."

He added: "Some foreign forces are still trying to influence Egypt in order to prevent it from being free to pursue an independent line." "We," he added, "support every step taken by Egypt to establish an independent policy and we support any tendency it might have to improve relations with us as this would serve the interests of both our countries as well as the interest of all the Arab countries."

Brutents expressed pleasure at visting Kuwait, adding: "It is an honor for me to be here. We in the USSR hold great esteem for the Kuwaiti people and we respect deeply the national line pursued by the Kuwaiti Government. We hope to see relations between our two countries become even better."

PRAVDA REPORTS BRUTENTS-AL-JUMAYYIL MEETING

PM051433 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 5 Apr 84 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Talk Held"]

[Text] Beirut, 4 Apr -- K.N. Brutents, deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee International Department head of a CPSU delegation, was received yesterday by Lebanese President A. al-Jumayyil. Questions of the Near East situation and Soviet-Lebanese relations were touched on during the talk.

He also met with Foreign Minister E. Salim.

MOSCOW REPORTS BRUTENTS CONTACTS IN LEBANON

LD071258 Moscow World Service in English 0810 GMT 7 Apr 84

[Text] The national patriotic forces in Lebanon assess highly the foreign policy of the Soviet Union aimed at establishing peace in the Middle East. That was stressed when the Soviet Communist Party delegation, headed by the deputy head of the International Department of the party's Central Committee, Karen Brutents, met with the leaders of the National Salvation Front of Lebanon, Rashid Karami and Sulayman Franjiyah. Details from Andrey Popov in Beirut:

The meetings took place in the framework of the visit of a Soviet delegation to Lebanon at the invitation of the Communist Party and the Progressive Socialist Party.

During the meeting with the prominent political leader Rashid Karami, the sides stressed that the national forces of Lebanon have lately won notable victories in the struggle against the intrigues of imperialism, primarily the United States. The withdrawal of United States Marines from Lebanese territory and the abolition of the enslaving treaty with Israel that followed opened up the way to a search of true peace in the country.

But as it was stressed during the meeting with Sulayman Franjiyah, the Israeli occupation of southern Lebanon hinders the normalization in the country. Now the struggle for the pullout of the occupation troops from Lebanese territory is assuming primary importance. The struggle of patriots for the liberation of their country is steadily expanding. The losses of the aggressors are increasing. The fair struggle of the Lebanese against aggressors has the support of all progressive forces of the Arab world, primarily Syria, which is giving moral and political backing to the national patrotic forces.

During the meetings with Lebanese political and public leaders, the members of the Soviet delegation confirmed the approach of the Soviet Union that stands for the freedom, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Lebanon.

VOLGIN ASSESSES LAUSANNE CONFERENCE RESULTS

PM061303 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 5 Apr 84 First Edition p 1

[Valeriy Volgin "International Review": "The Lebanese Volcano"]

[Excerpts] As anywhere else, probably, spring in Lebanon is the loveliest time. But in the scorched and scarred land we see today even it is powerless to change the mood. Cities and villages that were flourishing not long ago now lie in ruins. The guns thunder and the blood of more and more victims is shed. The Israeli aggressor clings leechlike to Lebanon, keeping one-fourth of its territory and one-fifth of its population under the boot of occupation. Still visible offshore are the massive dark shapes of U.S. battleships and aircraft carriers ready at any moment to spew out more tons of lethal metal. Columns of Israeli tanks and armored personnel carriers keep on making demonstrative dashes from the south in the direction of Beirut, reaching the environs of the city and thus demonstrating, seemingly, that they are in charge.

But who are the real masters of Lebanon? There are many of them and they are divided by deep religious, social, and class differences, which is a considerable impediment to their ability to act together to repulse the aggressor and to defend the country's national independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity. Naturally, this was manifested during and in the results of the Conference on National Reconciliation in Lebanon, the second stage of which ended recently in Lausanne. It would be quite wrong to concur with the virtually unanimous chorus of Western press assertions that the Lausanne conference "failed." Although, equally, there is no justification for an overly optimistic assessment. Apparently, one thing is certain: The first step, timid and not very firm, but nonetheless a step, has been taken in the bright direction, on the path of achieving the national accord that Lebanon so badly needs at the moment. "The starting point for a settlement and accord" -- that was how the Syrian paper TISHRIN described the conference results. As is known, diplomacy is the "art of the possible." And the compromise reached in Lausanne by the representatives of the Lebanese political groupings that are fighting one another is clearly the only possible thing one could realistically have expected at the Lausanne conference in the current very grim conditions, violence having been the main way of expressing political interests in the country for nearly a decade.

Nor is there any doubt that the practical implementation of the accords reached in Lausanne and, of course, the solution of the other questions on which there has so far been no agreement will be neither easy nor quick. Not just because the sides are too far apart on many of the problems, but also because of the obvious pressure being exerted on the Lebanese by Israel, by the very fact of its presence in the country and its provocative sorties, and by the United States, which still has its guns trained on Lebanon.

Yet the situation today does not look as gloomy as it has seemed for a long time. For the positions of Israel and the United States -- the chief enemies of peace and stability in Lebanon -- have been considerably weakened as a result of the political fiasco the two "strategic partners" or, to use words more appropriate to the situation, two allies in international piracy, blinded by misanthropy and armed to the teeth, have experienced in the small, peace-loving country.

t the development of events shows that the United States has not abandoned its aggressive plans. The United States and Israel are continuing to pressure and blackmail Syria and, lately, Libya and other Arab countries, including "moderate" and "conservative" countries which are reluctant to accept the U.S. diktat. From time to time Washington threatens to use military force to "protect" shipping in the Strait of Hormuz and it has moved into the area a U.S. Navy strike force headed by the aircraft carrier Midway. As a kind of reward for the crimes committed by Israel in Lebanon, it has been announced that U.S. aid to the Tel Aviv aggressors will reach record heights this year -- $2.5 billion -- and for the first time it will be free. Not confining itself to material support, Washington is also planning, so to speak, moral incentives for Israel: Congress is debating a bill on transferring the American Embassy in Israel from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem, which Israel has unlawfully proclaimed its capital. As though in mockery of the Arabs' national and religious feelings, U.S. Senator Biden cynically stated: "If the Arabs can 'swallow' our policy in Lebanon, they can 'swallow' anything."

The Lebanese tragedy is bound to stir the hearts of all honest people in the world. At the same time, what is happening on Lebanese soil is a further grim remainder that the key problems of the Near East region remain unresolved and that the chronic tension there is explosive and is a threat to world peace. The solution of these problems depends primarily on the Arabs themselves, on their ability to overcome their differences and conflicts and to form, as they were able to do not so long ago, a united front in the struggle for their legitimate rights. The steadfastness and bravery of the Lebanese patriots, Palestinians, and Syrians, who thwarted the Israeli and U.S. plans in Lebanon, show that victory in this struggle is a realistic prospect provided, of course 99 percent of the trump cards are not handed to the enemies, as As-Sadat, now swept onto the garbage heap of history, tried to do.

AQ, IRAN REPORT INTENSE FIGHTING ON FRONT

LD0621102 Moscow TASS in English 1940 GMT 6 Apr 84

[Text] Baghdad April 6 TASS -- According to a communique of the high command of Iraq, the most intensive combat actions on the Iraqi-Iranian front took place in a sector east of Basra and along Tigris River. In recent days the Iraqi command widely used combat aircraft and helicopters. Iranian artillery shelled the city of Basra.

Nicosia April 6 TASS -- The Iranian news agency IRNA has reported that in the southern sector of the front Iranian troops destroyed a number of Iraqi positions as well as a command post. More than 300 enemy soldiers were killed there over the past three days. IRNA pointed out that several additional brigades manned by "guards of the Islamic revolution" have been brought to the front.

LEADERS GREET MENGISTU ON ETHIOPIAN VICTORY DAY

PM060912 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 6 Apr 84 First Edition p 1

[Text] To Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam, chairman of the Provisional Military Administrative Council of Socialist Ethiopia and the Commission for Organizing the Party of the Working People of Ethiopia

We send you, Comrade Mengistu, the Central Committee of the Commission for Organizing the Party of the Working People, Provisional Military Administrative Council, the Council of Ministers, and the friendly people of Socialist Ethiopia cordial comradely congratulations on the important holiday -- Victory Day.

Soviet people have invariably nourished sentiments of profound respect for the heroic past of the Ethiopian people and their courageous struggle for freedom and independence against the colonial aggressors and fascist aggression. The glorious traditions of that struggle are organically linked with the present stage of your country's development and with the defense of its revolutionary gains from the intrigues of the hostile forces of imperialism and external and internal reaction.

We are sure that the relations of close friendship and combat solidarity between the Soviet Union and Socialist Ethiopia will continue to develop and strengthen successfully for the benefit of our countries' peoples and in the interests of universal peace, freedom, and progress.

The CPSU Central Committee, USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and USSR Council of Ministers

6 APR COUP ATTEMPT IN CAMEROON REPORTED

LD081023 Moscow TASS in English 0923 GMT 8 Apr 84

[Text] Paris April 8 TASS -- According to reports from Yaounde, a coup attempt has been quelled in Cameroon. The attempt was made by part of the Republican Guard whose function is to guard state institutions and take part in various ceremonies. As the FRANCE-PRESSE reports, last Friday the plotters managed to seize the airport, radio station and some other important facilities in the country's capital. However, the bulk of the Army sided with the government. Fighting went on in Yaounde and on its outskirts as well as in the city of Douala for twenty four hours with the use of artillery. Telephone and telegraph communication with the country was interrupted.

At present the loyalist troops have fully routed the insurgents, Paul Biya, president of Cameroon, has stated in a national radio broadcast. The government is in control of the situation in the country, he said. The head of state called on the population to remain calm.

FRANCE EXPECTED TO EXPAND INVOLVEMENT IN CHAD

PM061042 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 6 Apr 84 Morning Edition p 1

[Own correspondent Yu. Kovalenko dispatch: "Interference Expanded"]

[Text] Paris -- France intends to expand its military interference in Chad's internal affairs -- that, in the opinion of observers, is the result of the visit to the country by French Premier P. Mauroy.

After talks in Ndjamena, in which the French secretary of state for defense also participated, Pierre Mauroy assured H. Habre, the head of the pro-Western regime, that France is prepared to develop "cooperation" with him.

For his part, Habre stated that, in order to wage war, resources (that is, French military aid) are needed, which are "not always in sufficient supply." Having presented the head of the French Government with a long "order" for combat hardware and equipment worth Fr100 million, he furthermore asked Paris for additional "advisers" for his headquarters and personal guard and "instructors" for the military camp at (Kambula). Ndjamena also intends doubling the number of military specialists being trained in France.

By all accounts, Paris is prepared to satisfy Habre's request. It has already been reported that the latest group of French "advisers" will arrive in Ndjamena 20 April. As the newspaper LE MONDE notes, French Government representatives have promised to deliver "sufficient resources" to the Habre regime to enable it to achieve "successes" in its battles with detachments of the Transitional Government of National Unity headed by G. Oueddi.

GUINEAN SITUATION GRADUALLY NORMALIZING

PM061043 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 6 Apr 84 First Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Situation Normalizing"]

[Text] Conakry, 5 Apr -- The situation in Guinea is gradually normalizing following the accession to power of representatives of the Armed Forces in the country. State establishments and stores are working, and telephone and telegraph communications are functioning. The curfew is still in force. The international airport and the borders are closed.

The Military Committee of National Redemption has published a communique setting the main aims of the country's new leadership. The communique confirms the total adherence of the country's new leadership to the principles of the United Nations, the OAU, and the Nonaligned Movement. Guinea will actively support all national liberation movements in Africa, the Near East, and other regions.

The Military Committee of National Redemption today announced the composition of the new Guinean Government, which includes 25 representatives of the Armed Forces and 8 civilians. Colonel Lansana Conte has become president of the republic, and Colonel Diarra Traore prime minister.

PRAVDA EDITORIAL ARTICLE ON CENTRAL AMERICA

PM071944 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 8 Apr 84 First Edition p 4

[Editorial Article: "Frustrating the Criminal U.S. Plans in Central America"]

[Text] Washington is winding up the tension in Central America and expanding the military presence of the United States in this region. Having taken the path of interference in the affairs of independent states and of military pressure and threats against them, the U.S. Administration is behaving as though neither international legal norms, which are binding on everyone, nor basic norms of morality exist. In Washington they imagine that they have the right to carry out any violence or crime in Central America. Clearly having learned nothing, the U.S. politicians see this region as a kind of U.S. trust territory where the U.S. is permitted to do any thing.

In Central America a kind of front of reactionary regimes obedient to Washington is being knocked together; the U.S. military presence is being stepped up; and strong points for the realization of interventionist actions against independent states are being created. Honduras has been turned into a U.S. military camp, a forward base of aggression. The Pentagon and the CIA, in essence, are in complete charge here. The building of command posts, airstrips, supply dumps and other military objectives is being carried out at an accelerated rate. More than 1,500 U.S. soldiers have already dug themselves in Honduras under the guise of "maneuvers" which are being carried out for the second year.

Under the leadership of U.S. instructors, Salvadoran punitive battalions are undergoing training; and bands of mercenaries and assasins, who leave behind them a bloody trail wherever they appear, are being equipped and trained in terrorist actions.

Dozens of warships of the U.S. Navy have been brought to the coasts of Central American states. The threat that this presents to the peoples is well known from the experience of Lebanon.

All these actions by the United States are aimed at bringing this region under U.S. control, suppressing the desire of its peoples for freedom and independence, and imposing alien orders upon them.

The cutting edge of the whole of this imperialist policy today is directed above all against Nicaragua. Its people are the target of ceaseless subversive actions, blackmail, and threats. The CIA and the Pentagon are conducting an undeclared war against it. If at first attempts were still being made to disguise it in some way, Washington now does not even pretend that the Somozist cutthroats find themselves on Nicaraguan territory of their own accord and perpetrate banditry and violence there without support from outside.

Now, official representatives of the American Administration openly give themselves credit for having organized, trained, equipped and infiltrated into Nicaragua gangs of terrorists who kill peaceful inhabitants and carry out sabotage against civilian facilities. Neither is it concealed that the CIA is not only directing this undeclared war against the Nicaraguan people but also has quite a few of its own people directly in the terrorist groups. In this way the United States is realizing in practice the policy of state terrorism.

Casting aside all restraint, the U.S. Administration is openly declaring its aim of overthrowing the Sandinist government. It is the height of cynicism to state that the course being implemented by the Sandinist leadership within the country and in the international arena, and its striving to pursue a policy corresponding not to the interests of the United States but to those of the Nicaraguan people, is "unacceptable" to the United States. This is nothing less than a throwback to a colonialist, planter's philosophy, which is being rightly rejected by the peoples of Latin America and which has no place in the world today.

Washington, which is so fond of talking about the rights and freedoms of man, is in fact pursuing a policy toward Nicaragua that impudently tramples upon the right of a whole people. Within the United States, at the same time, an atmosphere of "all being permitted" is being cultivated. Matters there have reached the point where there is no longer any talk of the permissibility or impermissibility of U.S. interference in Nicaragua. It is being dinned into people's heads that it is supposedly "normal," and even "legitimate."

In other words, everything is being done to accustom Americans and world public opinion to the lawlessness being perpetrated against Nicaragua and thus to give the White House freedom of action for any acts against that country. The intention is to make people psychologically resigned to the aggression that is being planned.

Subversive acts against Nicaragua are becoming increasingly broad in scope, and of late a literal explosion of hostile anti-Nicaraguan activity has been evident. In Washington, Nicaragua is being openly threatened with armed invasion. Terror and violence are being perpetrated by mercenaries with increasing savagery. Peaceful settlements are bombed, the coast is shelled from the sea and attacks are carried out against vitally important economic installations. The terrorists are attempting to disrupt the normal life of the country.

Even more provocative actions have been undertaken just lately. Attempts are being made to disrupt the free passage of shipping off the coast of the country by means of the mining of the approaches to Nicaraguan posts.

The lives of citizens of countries whose vessels are making normal commercial and passenger voyages in areas adjacent to Nicaragua are being subjected to immediate danger. Several ships have already been blown up [podorvalos] by mines, including the Soviet tanker Lugansk, and there are human casualties.

The U.S. special services are directly involved in this new and even more dangerous form of aggression against Nicaragua. It is with their help that such a technically complicated and wide-scale operation is being carried out. The United States is responsible for the brigandage on the sea lanes in the region. Its actions, as was stated in the USSR Government's note to the U.S. Government of 21 March this year, are a direct infringement of one of the fundamental principles of international law -- the right to freedom of passage by sea -- and cannot be tolerated.

Carrying out these blatant actions of terror and aggression, Washington at the same time is doing everything to block and torpedo the possibility of achieving a just political settlement in Central America. This is also being done because it by no means suits certain circles in the United States that, for the first time in the history of Latin America, the countries of this region are resolutely taking into their own hands the initiative in settling their problems and are working out concrete ways of doing this. What is natural from all points of view appears unnatural to the United States, which is used to waving a big stick and dictating its conditions.

Washington does not want a political settlement in Central America. This was shown with full clarity when its demagogy was opposed by the far-reaching constructive proposals of the Nicaraguan Government. The U.S. Administration is not only ignoring the efforts of the states of the "Contadora Group", which have gained broad support both in Latin America and outside it, but is also acting directly against these efforts.

The United State's show of concern for "strengthening democracy" in the countries of Latin America has been totally unmasked. What this concern is really worth is plainly visible from the direct support for dictatorial regimes in this region, and from the fact that the escalation of hostility against Nicaragua is happening at the very time when the people of that country are preparing to hold a general election.

The actions of the United States are a crude violation of the generally-accepted norms of international law. Showing its contempt for the United Nations, Washington is not carrying out the resolution on Central America adopted at the 38th UN General Assembly session, against approval of which, incidentally, not even the U.S. delegation objected. This resolution directly condemns "acts of aggression against the sovereignty, independence, and territorial integrity of states of the region, leading to human casualties and irreparable damage to their economies." It stressed the special seriousness of attacks from outside an airports, seaports, oil-storage facilities, and other Nicaraguan installations.

What the United States is doing in Central America, against Nicaragua, is flagrantly lawless and a crime against peoples. It is an obvious manifestation of the policy of state terrorism which they have adopted in Washington.

Soviet people are profoundly indignant at the United States aggressive actions against sovereign Nicaragua, they resolutely condemn them and express their firm solidarity with the Nicaraguan people and their just cause. They demand that the aggression and terrorism against Nicaragua be stopped, and that the people of that country, like any other people, be given the opportunity to independently determine their fate without being subjected to outside interference and pressure.

On Nicaragua's side are the sympathies and support of all people of goodwill, for it is a matter of the sacred right to free and independent development. Defense of that right is a common cause of all states. Attempts to trample on the independence and sovereignty of states must be countered by the united will and resolve of the peoples. This is what the interests of mankind and the interests of peace demand.

REGISTRATION OF SUPREME SOVIET DEPUTIES BEGINS

LD091028 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1000 GMT 9 Mar 84

[Excerpts] Today is the second day of the registration of deputies in the Kremlin. The deputies are coming to Moscow for the first session of the USSR Supreme Soviet of the new convocation.

The first session will open 11 April at separate sessions of the Soviet of the Union and the Soviet of Nationalities. The Soviet of Nationalities session will take place Wednesday [11 April] at 1000 and the Soviet of the Union session will take place at 1200.

POLITBURO DISCUSSES FOREIGN, DOMESTIC ISSUES

LD051719 Moscow TASS in English 1705 GMT 5 Apr 84

[Text] Moscow April 5 TASS -- The Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, at its regular meeting has approved the results of the meetings and conversations by Soviet leaders Konstantin Chernenko, Geydar Aliyev, Andrey Gromyko, and Dmitriy Ustinov with Mengistu Haile Mariam, Chairman of the Provisional Military Administrative Council and of the Commission for Organising a Party of the Working People of Ethiopia (COPWE). The great importance of further development of fruitful cooperation between the Soviet Union and Ethiopia, the CPSU and the COPWE, of their unity of views on major questions of the present-day international situation, of the struggle against the forces of imperialism and neocolonialism, for social progress, peace and security of the peoples was emphasized.

The Political Bureau heard and approved Andrey Gromyko's information on the talks with Mangalyn Dugersuren, member of the Central Committee of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party, minister of foreign affairs of the Mongolian People's Republic, as well as with Mokhtar Kusumaatmaja, Indonesian minister of foreign affairs.

Some other question of the USSR's domestic and foreign policy were considered at the Politbureau's meeting.

The Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee endorsed the CPSU Central Committee's slogans for the interantional holiday of the working people, the first of May.

An item on the results of admission of new members to the CPSU and on changes that took place in its composition during 1983 was considered at the Politbureau's meeting. As was pointed out during the discussion of this question, on the whole the process of the growth and strengthening of the ranks of the party, which now unites about 18.5 million Communists, goes on in accordance with the guidelines of the 26th congress of the party and of the subsequent plenary meetings of the CPSU Central Committee. The steady tendency towards the party's growth through the priority admission of workers and collective farmers continues.

At its meeting the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee considered and approved proposals on practical measures which are being mapped out to implement a reform of the Soviet school. They are aimed at improving the work of the general educational schools, education based on work, and vocational guidance of schoolchildren, at further developing vocational training, at raising the standard of pre-school public education of children as well as at perfecting the training of teaching personnel, at creating better conditions for their work and life, at raising the salaries of teachers and other workers in the field of public education.

DEATH OF AIRCRAFT DESIGNER ANTONOV ANNOUNCED

AU061817 Kiev Domestic Service in Ukrainian 1700 GMT 5 Apr 84

[Excerpt] The Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee, Supreme Soviet Presidium, and Council of Ministers announce with deep sorrow that, following a grave illness, Academician Oleg Konstantinovich Antonov, prominent scientist and aircraft designer, member of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee, deputy to the USSR Supreme Soviet, Hero of Socialist Labor, recipient of the Lenin Prize and of USSR and Ukrainian SSR State Prizes, died on 4 April 1984 at the age of 78.

Antonov's Achievements Enumerated

LD051215 Moscow TASS in English 1153 GMT 5 Apr 84

[Text] Moscow April 5 TASS -- Academician Oleg Antonov, general aircraft designer, died after a serious diease at the age of 78 on Wednesday.

The obituary was signed by Konstantin Chernenko and other leaders of the CPSU and the Soviet state, in honor of the prominent scientist and outstanding aircraft designer of the Soviet land.

Since 1946 Oleg Antonov headed an aircraft design office. One of the first achievements of the office was the creation of the AN-2 transport and agricultural aviation plane, which is widely used in the USSR and abroad. It has been built and is in operation to this day. These planes presently do the bulk of agricultural work in the Soviet Union.

Oleg Antonov's deep theoretical knowledge, vast erudition and experience of design work ensured a successful resolution of complex scientific, design and technological problems and the development of a whole series of such well-known passenger and transport planes as AN-24, AN-26, AN-12 along with the wide-bodied AN-22 plane having excellent characteristics, the obituary says.

Signatories to Obituary Listed

PM060950 [Editorial Report] Moscow PRAVDA in Russian in its 6 April First Edition publishes on page 3 the 550-word obituary of aircraft design O.K. Antonov, who died 4 April. The obituary is signed by K.U. Chernenko, G.A. Aliyev, V.I. Vorotnikov, M.S. Gorbachev, V.V. Grishin, A.A. Gromyko, D.A. Kunayev, G.V. Romanov, M.S. Solomentsev, N.A. Tikhonov, D.F. Ustinov, V.V. Shcherbitskiy, P.N. Demichev, V.I. Dolgikh, V.V. Kuznetsov, B.N. Ponomarev, V.M. Chebrikov, E.A. Shevardnadze, M.V. Zimyanin, I.V. Kapitonov, Ye.K. Ligachev, K.V. Rusakov, N.I. Ryzhkov, L.V. Smirnov, G.I. Marchuk, I.F. Dmitriyev, I.S. Silayev, B.P. Bugayev, P.V. Finogenov, P.S. Pleshakov, E.K. Pervyshin, Ye.P. Slavskiy, O.D. Baklanov, A.P. Aleksandrov, A.A. Yepishev, P.S. Kutakhov, V.M. Shabanov, N.S. Stroyev, V.V. Kozlov, A.F. Vatchenko, Yu.N. Yelchenko. B.V. Kachura, A.P. Lyashko, I.A. Mozgovoy, A.A. Titarenko, A.S. Kapto, Ya.P. Pogrebnyak, V.A. Zgurskiy, V.D. Kryuchkov, B.Ye. Paton, A.S. Systsov, A.V. Bolbot, Yu.A. Bardin, M.A. Ilin, Yu.V. Konyshev, Yu.V. Nikitin, G.B. Stroganov, V.M. Chepkin, L.M. Shkadov, V.T. Ivanov, A.A. Tupolev, G.V. Novozhilov, R.A. Belyakov, M.P. Simonov, A.S. Yakovlev, P.D. Grushin, V.A. Lotarev, P.A. Solovyev, P.V. Balabuyev, V.G. Oleshko, V.N. Sivets, V.I. Omelchenko, and G.P. Nikulenko.

SHCHERBITSKIY PAYS LAST RESPECTS TO ANTONOV

AU061835 Kiev Domestic Service in Ukrainian 1700 GMT 6 Apr 84

[Summary] On 6 April, the working people of Kiev paid last respects to Oleg Konstantinovich Antonov. The coffin with the body was put in state in the Great Conference Hall of the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences. In the last moments of the leave taking, the guard of honor was mounted by Comrades Shcherbitskiy, Vatchenko, Gerasimov, Yelchenko, Kachalovskiy, Kachura, Lyashko, Mozgovoy, Sologub, Titarenko, Kapto, Kolomiyets, Mukha, Pogrebnyak, and others. A meeting of mourning was held at the Baykovo cemetery in homage to the memory of the prominent scientist and aircraft designer.

ARMENIAN SUPREME SOVIET HOLDS SESSION

GF090518 Yerevan SOVETAKAN AYASTAN in Armenian 29 Mar 84 p 2

[Text] The Armenian SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium has held its routine session. The session reviewed the question of supervisiong the implementation of the decisions adopted earlier by the Armenian SSR Supreme Soviet.

In this regard the Presidium heard and reviewed the report of N.B. Saakyan, chairman of the Artik People's Deputies Rayon Soviet Executive Committee, on the work of the Armenian SSR people's deputies soviets and their executive committees toward the fulfillment of the Food Program in light of the May and November 1982 CPSU Central Committee Plenum resolutions and on the implementation course of the Supreme Soviet's decision adopted on 9 June 1983.

The Presidium noted the positive work of the Artik Rayon Soviet and its Executive Committee and that of the soviets of the villages and surrounding areas, toward the realization of the Food Program under the rayon party organization leadership and the achievement of the comprehensive development of the farms associated in the rayon agro-industrial complex sectors.

In the established measures, an important place is allocated to the organizational work carried out in locations to achieve final high production results, strengthen supervision on the implementation of the adopted decisions, activate the work of deputy groups and posts, and raise the personal responsibility of the leaders on the existing situation in each farm.

In 1983 the rayon achieved high indicators in the production and sale of agricultural provisions. The profitability of the kolkhozes and sovkhozes increased considerably. In 1981 it formed 5.4 percent, and then in the following years it formed 11.3 and 27.3 percent respectively against the projected 8.4 and 23.1 percent. Measures are being implemented toward the further development of the citizen's personal subsidiary farms and the socialist progress of the villages.

Along with that, the shortcomings in work were also noted. Certain farms (Horom and Hovdashen villages' farms as well as Bemzashen, Tufashen, Lernakert, and Saralanch Sovkhozes) did not fulfill plan targets for an increase in the number of livestock. In many locations a reduction in the number of livestock has been permitted. It was noted that it is necessary to raise the standard of mechanization of work processes, improve construction work, cultural and consumer services to the villagers, and work to keep animals for the personal usage of the citizens everywhere. Subsidiary farms at the industrial enterprises should also be organized.

The Artik Rayon Soviet and its Executive Committee were urged to use their positive expertise for the realization of the Food Program and take measures to eliminate noted shortcomings while implementing additional measures for the further perfection of all economic activity and the fulfillment and overfulfillment of the plan targets of the Food Program in light of the February 1984 CPSU Central Committee Plenum resolutions, the issues of the all-union economic and scientific conference dedicated to the agro-industrial complex problems, and the speeches of Comrade K.U. Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

Following that E.M. Kirakosyan, chairman of the Armenian SSR Supreme Soviet Housing, Municipal and Consumer Services Commission, and R.A. Kandayan, chairman of the Yerevan Spandaryan Rayon Soviet Executive Committee, reported on the course of the implementation of the decision adopted by the republic's Supreme Soviet on 3 December 1982 on the development of the Armenian SSR housing services and the improvement of the usage and preservation of the housing fund and on the preservation of the housing regulations at the Spandaryan Rayon Soviet Executive Committee. It was noted that the rayon soviet and its executive committee and the enterprises and organizations under their jurisdiction are carrying out certain positive work toward the implementation of that decision. Following the adoption of the USSR and the Armenian SSR housing laws, the administration of the housing fund and the work to secure its preservation has improved in Spandaryan. In recent years 43 apartment blocks have been renovated and been given appropriate architectural appearance with boiler houses centralized. A total of 1,340 families have received modern reformed residences. The supervision on the accounting and distribution of the residences has strengthened.

Along with that, the attention of the soviet and its executive committee was directed to shortcomings in the work of implementing the housing law. It was noted in particular that supervision of execution of the housing construction plans is insufficient; the demand of the construction and planning organizations is loose toward the preservation of plan and execution discipline; the schedule for making the commissioned houses habitable is being violated; and there are shortcomings in the work of repairing the heating and water supply installations.

It was considered necessary to also strengthen the supervision and demand on the unswerving fulfillment of the laws for citizen housing funds usage.

Decisions were adopted in accordance with the reviewed issue. Concrete recommendations have been made to Spandaryan Rayon Soviet and its Executive Committee and additional measures have been established for the implementation of the abovementioned Armenian SSR Supreme Soviet decision.

A report was heard at the session on the results of the investigation of the letters and other applications received from the citizens at the Supreme Soviet Presidium during the first 3 months of this year.

Other scientific life issues of the republic were also reviewed, in accordance to which corresponding decrees and decisions were adopted.

TIKHONOV, ALIYEV, OTHERS VISIT EXHIBITION

PM061400 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 5 Apr 84 First Edition p 2

[TASS report: "Visit to Exhibition"]

[Excerpts] On 3 April N.A. Tikhonov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and G.A. Aliyev, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, visited the international specialized exhibition "Metalworking-84" which is being held in Moscow.

N.A. Tikhonov was informed that during the exhibition, talks have been held and contracts are being concluded between Soviet foreign trade organizations and representatives of firms exhibiting their products.

The conversation, which took place during the inspection of the pavilions, devoted great attention to questions of integration and cooperation in resolving important problems in the sphere of metalworking and robot building.

A high assessment of the achievements of the country's machine tool industry was given, and the task was set of ensuring the wider utilization of its potential to bring about the more rapid retooling of all machine building sectors in accordance with the decisions of the 26th party congress and the December (1983) and February (1984) Plenums of the CPSU Central Committee.

The exhbition was also attended by Deputy Chairmen of the USSR Council of Ministers A.K. Antonov, I.I. Bodyul, V.E. Dymshits, N.V. Martynov, G.I. Marchuk, Z.N. Nuriyev, L.V. Smirnov, N.V. Tayzin, and B.Ye. Shcherbina.

Explanations on the exhibition were given by B.V. Valmont, chairman of its organizing committee and minister of the machine tool and tool building industry, and M.S. Shkabardnya, minister of instrument making, means of automation, and control systems.

TIKHONOV VISITS MOSCOW AGRICULTURAL EXHIBITION

LD061828 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 6 Apr 84

[From the Vremya newscast]

[Text] Comrade Tikhonov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; and members of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo Comrade Gorbachev, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; and Comrade Vorotnikov, chairman of the RSFSR Council of Ministers, today visited an exhibition in Moscow of new strains and hybrids of agricultural crops proposed for zonal cultivation from 1985.

In a conversation that took place during the review of the exhibition it was stressed that improving selection and strain testing is one of the most important elements in intensifying agriculture and the main means of increasing yields and of raising the gross yields of agricultural crops. This factor of intensification acquires special significance in resolving the tasks laid down by the USSR Food Program. The conviction was expressed that seed-breeding experts and all agricultural specialists, implementing the decisions of the May 1982 Plenum and subsequent plenums of the CPSU Central Committee, and fulfilling the tasks of the Food Program, will multiply their efforts by all possible means to increase the output of agricultural produce and to improve its quality.

Also present at the exhibition were Comrade Nuriyev, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; Comrade Karlov, head of the Agriculture and Food Industry Department of the CPSU Central Committee, heads of ministries and departments connected with the agro-industrial complex, and responsible workers of the CPSU Central Committee, USSR Council of Ministers, ministries and departments.

CPSU CONGRATULATES BUILDERS OF CHEMICAL COMPLEX

LD060919 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 6 Apr 84 First Edition p 1

[CPSU Central Committee message: "On Labor Victory"]

[Text] To the participants in the construction of the methanol production complex at the Chemical Industry Ministry's Tomsk Chemical Plant

Dear Comrades! The CPSU Central Committee congratulates you on an important labor victory -- the construction of a major methanol-production complex at the Tomsk Chemical Plant. The commissioning of this up-to-date enterprise is an important contribution to the realization of the party's decisions on the further development of the country's chemical industry.

The successes in building the unique complex were achieved thanks to the efficient cooperation of all labor collectives, the enthusiastic and creative approach to the resolution of the complex tasks in establishing and assimilating highly automated methanol production, and the purposeful organization and political work of the oblast's party, trade union, and Komsomol organizations.

The CPSU Central Committee expresses confidence that the collectives of construction workers and operators, implementing the decisions of the 26th party congress and subsequent CPSU Central Committee plenums, will do everything necessary to assimilate ahead of schedule the methanol production design capacity, successfully complete the construction of the plant's third stage, and put all their efforts and experience into fulfilling the plan targets for 1984 and the 11th 5-Year Plan as a whole.

We wish you, dear Comrades, new labor successes for the benefit of our great motherland.

The CPSU Central Committee

VOROTNIKOV, DEMICHEV, ZIMYANIN ATTEND SOIREE

LD062035 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1830 GMT 6 Apr 84

[Excerpts] A festive soiree took place today in the Hall of Columns of the House of Unions, devoted to the 175th anniversary of the birth of Nikolay Vasiliyevich Gogol. Comrades Vorotnikov, Demichev, Zimyanin; chiefs of departments of the CPSU Central Committee Stukalin and Shauro; a delegation from the Ukrainian SSR: representatives of the literary world of other union republics: people from cultural and scientific walks of life; and workers from Moscow enterprises were present at the soiree.

FORSTRY COMMITTEE HEAD VOROBYEV RETIRES

PM090950 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 6 Apr 84 First Edition p 2

[Unattributed report: "At the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium"]

[Text] The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium has released Comrade Georgiy Ivanovich Vorobyev from his duties as chairman of the USSR State Committee for Forestry in connection with his retirement on health grounds.

EPOROZHNIY VIEWS POWER GENERATION PROGRAM

LD071139 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0610 GMT 7 Apr 84

[Text] Moscow, 7 Apr (TASS) -- In 1985 the production of electricity in the USSR will increase to 1,555 billion kwh. This is 260 billion more than in 1980. The high rates of electricity generation are envisaged by the USSR's Energy Program which is calculated to the end of this century.

Commenting on the electric power generation sector, Power and Electrification Minister Petr Neporozhniy told a TASS correspondent that such rates were needed in order to facilitate the changeover of the Soviet national economy onto the intensive path of development.

In the next two 5-year plan periods, the minister said, the state is allocating 20 to 22 percent of the total volume of capital investment in the national economy to these aims.

The minister recalled that the USSR is one of the largest producers of electrical power in the world. However, the position is such that 80 percent of fuel and power is consumed in the European part of the USSR, including the Urals, whereas the main reserves of energy resources are located beyond the Urals ridge, in the east of the country. The sources of energy now being discovered are further east and north and their costs are increasing because of this.

The Power Program envisages the implementation of measures for considerable savings in fuel resources. New technology is being developed with this aim which will allow more economic expenditure of oil, gas, and coal. At present over 60 percent of the organic fuel being produced in the country is expended on the production of electricity and heat. This proportion is to be considerably reduced; the use of oil products, and eventually the use of gas, is to be eliminated from the production of electricity and heat.

The chief emphasis is being laid on atomic power generation. Thermal stations will be built mainly beyond the Urals where it is economically more profitable to use cheap coal and gas.

In the European part of the USSR atomic power generation will become predominant. About 20 atomic power stations are now being built in the USSR. Construction of the first atomic district heating stations to provide electricity and heat is underway.

Apart from these, the USSR intends to make extensive use of renewable sources of power, for example solar, wind, terrestrial heat, and tidal flows.

URENGOY-CENTER PIPELINE WORK PROGRESSING

LD071220 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0600 GMT 7 Apr 84

[Text] Builders of the Urengoy-Center gas pipeline today completed welding the last meters of pipes much ahead of schedule. This means that one single steel string stretches now from the polar regions of western Siberia to the two of Yelets in Lipetsk Oblast -- the terminal points of the gas truck pipeline -- a distance of over 3,000 km. Construction of the 5th powerful gas pipeline of this 5-year period originating from the Urengoy deposit is drawing to a close. Evidence of this is the large scale of pre-commissioning work now in progress over the entire route. To date 500 km of the trunk pipeline are ready; over 100 km are undergoing tests; and the builders have pledged to put the entire gas pipeline into operation by the beginning of the summer.

TBILISI HOSTS BUSINESS CLUB, SHORTCOMINGS NOTED

PM060951 [Editorial Report] Moscow PRAVDA in Russian in its 2 April Second Edition carries on page 2 under the rubric "Business Club" and the headline "Georgia: The Economic Quest" a 2,500-word account of a regular session of PRAVDA's "Business Club," held on this occasion in Georgia's capital, Tbilisi. The account takes the form of questions and answers by participants in the session -- leaders of republic ministries and departments, enterprises and associations, economists, scientists, and party and soviet officials, including G. Gadeliya, deputy chairman of the republic State Committee for Agricultural Production, and D. Dvalishvili, Georgian minister of finance -- and deals with efforts to ensure a truly creative atmosphere in labor collectives, and a more rational combination of sectoral and territorial principles of production management, citing experience gained at the Abasha Rayon Agro-industrial Association and the Poti Territorial Intersectoral Association.

The session was chaired by PRAVDA correspondents D. Valovoy, V. Goncharov, and G. Lebanidze, who provide a 500-word summary of its proceedings under the subhead "Postscript to the Session," which notes that, despite the achievements cited, much work lies ahead in connection with the fact that "more than one-third of enterprises and associations are not meeting their contractual obligations in full, certain types of industrial and even consumer goods -- particularly clothing, footwear, knitwear, and furniture -- do not match quantitative and qualitative requirements," and "reserves exist for increasing labor productivity and lowering the prime cost of output."

GOSPLAN OFFICIAL CALLS FOR BETTER USE OF GAS

PM301553 [Editorial Report] Moscow EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA in Russian No 13, March, signed to press 19 March, carries on page 9 a 2,000-word article entitled "Make More Efficient Use of Natural Gas" by V. Filanovskiy, chief of the USSR Gosplan Petroleum and Gas Industry Department. The article stresses the importance of gas to the national economy both as a fuel, where Filanovskiy sees natural gas as a potential motor fuel, and as a raw material for the production of other useful gases and as the basis of mineral fertilizer production. Filanovskiy also calls for the more efficient use of natural gas in industry and in domestic heating, and complains of the lack of certain types of highly efficient gas-fired equipment which could reduce gas consumption and waste.

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON SOVIET-INDIAN SPACE MISSION

Crew Conducts Experiments

LD061459 Moscow TASS in English 1149 GMT 6 Apr 84

[Excerpt] Moscow April 5 TASS -- TASS special correspondents report from the international press centre:

The members of the international space crew Yuriy Malyshev, Gennadiy Strekalov and Indian researcher cosmonaut Rakesh Sharma have today started geological prospecting of India's territory from the 300 kilometre height of their near-earth orbit. Reporting on that research programme named "Terra" at a meeting with Soviet and foreign newsmen, shift flight director Viktor Blagov said that it would be carried out in the 13th, 14th and 15th orbits.

At the request of Indian specialists, the Nicobar, Andaman and Laccadive Islands have been chosen as objects of surveys. Photography will be also made of India's northwestern areas and the eastern coast. On top of that, Blagov said, Indian specialists will conduct concurrent aerial and ground surveys of those areas.

When the orbital complex will be over the Soviet Union's territory of the Soviet Far East, the Baykal-Amur railway main and the mountain spurs of the Pamires. [sentence as received]

Commenting on the potentialities of outer space geological surveys, Viktor Blagov explained that the photographs made in one orbit enable scientists to obtain information equivalent to aerial surveys of two years.

The regular information coming to the flight operations center is evidence that the adaptation of the members of the international crew is proceeding normally. In the course of the communication sessions, the Soviet and Indian flight directors are assisted by the back-up team: Anatoliy Berezovoy, Georgiy Grechko and India's representative Ravish Malhotra.

Answering the questions of journalists about the flight programme, Viktor Blagov said that nine experiments would be carried out in the afternoon. Taking part in the "Ballisto-3", "Vector", "Questionnaire" and "Yoga" will be also "Jupiter-3", as the Indian researcher cosmonaut is named at the flight operations center.

Medical experts pointed out with satisfaction the effectiveness of the prophylactic experiments "Pneumatic", "Bracelet" and exercises according to the Indian "Yoga" system, which were carried out on the first day of flight in the complex. A statement to this effect was made to newsmen by Air Marshal Mulk Raj, who is in charge of the medical experiments from the Indian side. Giving an evaluation of the medical programme of the flight, he pointed out that its aim is to study the effects on the physiological processes occuring in human organism in weightlessness and develop a system of prophylactic measures. This is in particular the aim of the "Vector" programme used for the first time. Electro-cardiography will be used to obtain such data about the functions of the heart as excitability and the state of blood supply. The registration of the vector cardiogram is done in a special instrument designed by Indian scientists.

More Experiments Listed

LD071118 Moscow TASS in English 0958 GMT 7 Apr 84

[Text] Moscow April 7 TASS -- A TASS correspondent reporting from the mission control center: Cosmonauts Leonid Kizim, Vladimir Solovyev, Oleg Atkov, Yuriy Malyshev, Gennadiy Strekalov and Rakesh Sharma continue joint work aboard the Salyut-7 orbital research station.

In the first half of the day they carried out a scheduled series of geophysical studies within the framework of experiment "Terra." Working on assignments from experts in geology, soil science, agriculture and water management, the cosmonauts carried out visual observations and photography of the water area of the Bay of Bengal, the western coast and the desert zone of India, the valley of the river Ganges and the Himalaya. The photography was carried out with the help of hand-held cameras and stationary cameras MKF-6M and KATE-140.

The medical part of the scientific programme is represented today by "Profilaktika," "Yoga," "Anketa" and "Opros" experiments which carry on the study of the impact of space flight on human organism and test methods and means of preventing the adverse effect on zero gravity.

Under the programme of experiments in space materials study, the visiting crew today began a series of undercooling experiments using the "Isparitel" (evaporator) installation. The purpose of the experiments is to study the phenomenon of undercooling in the phase of solidification of molten metals and the study of possibilities of producing special forms of metallic materials, the so-called "metallic glass," in conditions of microgravity.

To carry out the experiments on the "Isparitel" installation, Soviet experts developed an additional working unit, and the Indian side has prepared samples in which a silver-germanium alloy is used as a modelling material.

During two communications sessions later this evening the crews will hold a news conference for Soviet and foreign correspondents covering the flight. According to the results of medical tests, the cosmonauts are in good health. The flights of the Salyut-7 — Soyuz-T-10 research complex is proceeding normally.

Second Day in Space Ends

LD071301 Moscow TASS in English 1121 GMT 7 Apr 84

[Text] Moscow April 7 TASS -- TASS special correspondents report from the international press centre:

A pleasant surprise awaited the Soviet-Indian crew on board the orbital Salyut-7--Soyuz T-10--Soyuz T-11 complex at the end of their second day in space. The cosmonauts communicated with their relatives and friends via the television link between their spacecraft and the capital's Rossiya cinema-theatre. Rakesh Sharma and his Soviet colleagues not only saw the happy faces of thier dear ones, but also exchanged earth and space news, as well as told them about their health.

All the cosmonauts, this is proved by unbiased telemetry gauges at mission control centre, are in good health. The unanimous opinion of the medics is as follows: "The flow of blood towards the cosmonauts' heads has reduced. No vestibular disturbances are observed."

The programme of another day in orbit, as Soviet and foreign newsmen were told today, started with the investigation of Indian territory and adjoining waters of the ocean. More than three hundred pictures of the various parts of the country are ready for dispatch to Earth.

Forests of the Nicobar and Andaman Islands, covering 90 per cent of their territory have been investigated, newsmen were told by Lev Ronzhin. He represents the Soviet side in the "Terra" expriment on remote sensing. Analysis of the data obtained, he said, will help develop forestry, the mainstay of the region's economy. Besides, the investigations are directed at studying the bio-productivity of waters and detecting possible oil- and gas-bearing structures.

[illegible]ying above the Laccadive Islands, the cosmonauts paid special attention to investi[illegible]ating the bio-productivity of the area with a view to developing deepwater fishing.

The crew conducted visual observations of the basin of the Ganges, a river with a changeable hydrological regime and with frequent floods. The space route traversed the highest peak in the Himalayas, Mt. Everest, now being scaled by a team of Indian mountaineers.

Ronzhin stressed the importance of the state of glaciers and snow cover of the Himalayas which determine the water regime of rivers. This will make it possible to find effective protection against destructive floods which inflict immense damage to the country's agriculture.

"Undercooling" was a new experiment conducted on that day in orbit. Its aim is to study the effect of undercooling during the cooling of molten metals. The results of the experiment will be of practical significance for producing new alloys and materials necessary for modern science and engineering.

During the intervals in their experiment-packed flight programme, all members of the oribital complex are preparing for a forthcoming press conference with Soviet and foreign newsmen via space television.

Cosmonauts Answer Questions

LD071743 Moscow TASS in English 1535 GMT 7 Apr 84

[Text] Moscow April 7 TASS -- Special TASS correspondents report from the [illegible]ternational Press Center:

"Harmonious and monolithic" -- this is how Leonid Kizim, the oribital complex commander, described the joint Soviet-Indian international crew. He opened the space-earth news conference today attended by Soviet and foreign journalists.

Leonid Kizim emphasised that a complex program of scientific experiments "was being carried out in accordance with schedule and with a high degree of quality."

The flight, the [word indistinct] cosmonaut-researcher Rakesh Sharma remarked, "has become an example of successful fruitful cooperation in the exploration and peaceful uses of near-earth space."

Evaluating the experiments conducted aboard the oribital complex, Rakesh Sharma stressed that they "will give a fresh impetus to the development of the economy of India and the whole of mankind".

Asked by Soviet newsmen that Yuriy Malyshev would like to wish the younger generation of the world, the commander of the visiting crew said: "I wish the children who are the future of mankind clear skies, bright sun and peace. That is why all upright people on Earth are genuinely indignant when U.S. imperialism and its allies are spending huge funds on armaments, for at the same time millions of children on earth are starving to death".

Sharing his impressions, Rakesh Sharma, the first Indian citizen to fly to space, said: "The Earth if strikingly beautiful. It is even more beautiful than what I [illegible]eard of or imaged to see. [Words indistinct] the orbit, you feel especially [illegible]nly the need of friendship and solidarity of all peoples. I fail to understand why international tensions should exist on our planet".

The members of the back-up team -- Anatoliy Berezevoy, Georgiy Grechko, representative of India Ravish Malhotra -- helped transmit questions of journalists to the oribital complex.

It is natural that many of them were interested in the effect of using the ancient Indian "Yoga" system in outer space. Rakesh Sharma explained that "only after the return to Earth we shall know precisely the extent of its successes, but preliminarily I may add that these exercises help me withstand weightlessness well."

Indian journalists asked the question about a possibility of practical application of orbital explorations. "Jupiter-3", as Rakesh Sharma is called at the Mission Control Centre, emphasized that these explorations opened up broad prospects for further development of India's industry as a whole.

The blast-off was described by the Indian researcher-consmonaut as the most striking acute sensation. My country looks beautiful from outer space. The transparently blue ocean, the green forests, very beautiful snowy tops of the Himalayas", he said.

In outer space, just as on Earth, music assists in work. The recordings that were taken with them by the consmonauts of the main expedition were replenished with recordings of melodious Indian songs, which were brought by Rakesh Sharma. Valdimir Solovyev told journalists: "We are listening with pleasure to music of our friend's homeland".

The time of space news conference is brief. Hardly television screens died out at the Mission Control Centre, as preparations for a new scientific experiment began aboard the orbital "Salyut-7" -- "Soyuz T-10" -- "Soyuz T-11" complex.

Details of Photography

LD081051 Moscow TASS in English 1025 GMT 8 Apr 84

[Text] Moscow April 8 TASS -- TASS special correspondents report from the international press centre:

The joint international Soviet-Indian space crew who have been working aboard the "Salyut-7" -- "Soyuz T-10" -- "Soyuz T-11" orbital complex for the fourth day have transmitted an urgent information about a big forest fire in Burma. This was announced today at a meeting with Soviet and foreign journalists by Dr T.K. Alex, project director of the remote sensing experiment ("Terra") (I.S.R.O.).

The cosmonauts reported that the fire has covered an area of about 50 square kilometres. Dr Alex gave this fact as one of concrete examples of the practical application of the results of visual observations which are conducted every day by Indian cosmonaut-researcher Rakesh Sharma and by his Soviet colleagues.

Dr Alex highly appreciated the joint Soviet-Indian experiment during which about 2,000 sequences have been shot by stationary and hand-operated cameras. He said the photographing of Indian territory will continue till Tuesday. According to the programme, 40 percent of India's territory will be probed from orbit during the "Terra" experiment.

Weather is favouring the photography from space, the Indian specialist went on to say. Areas of the Arabian Sea, the deltas of the Brahmaputra and the Ganges, the areas of New Delhi and Agra, and the Himalayas have been photographed.

Information on the comparative cloudiness which influences the planning of time and area for photography is transmitted to a ground tracking station in India by its satellite. Mr [as received] Alex explained that these data will go to the specialists of the Mission Control Centre where, upon the processing of information by computer, recommendations on the optimum conditions for the forthcoming work are transmitted to the orbital complex.

The Soviet-Indian crew's schedule for Sunday also envisages the accomplishment of the programmes "Poll" and "Questionnaire". The first of them makes it possible to obtain an evaluation of the influence of various stages of the flight on the psychological condition of crewmen. During the "Questionnaire" experiment the cosmonauts answer a number of questions which makes it possible to evaluate the vestibular conditon of their organisms.

The question of how the participants in the joint flight feel has become traditional at press conferences. According to a report from orbit by physician Oleg Atkov, the state of health of Leonid Kizim, Vladimir Solovyev, Yuriy Malyshev, Gennadiy Strekalov, Rakesh Sharma, and of himself is good. The Soviet-Indian flight is going on successfully.

'Minor Snag' Corrected

BK090309 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 9 Apr 84

[Text] The Salyut crew, working with experts on the ground, have successfully commissioned on board a furnace which failed to work well on Saturday. This was disclosed by Dr A.M. (Shri Ramamurthi), a member of the Indian technical team in Moscow. A minor snag has been corrected and the cosmonauts have already carried out experiments with the samples of silver-germanium alloy.

The Indian cosmonaut, Squadron Leader Rakesh Sharma, continued his yoga and photography on the 5th day yesterday.

Midpoint of Mission

LD091032 Moscow TASS in English 0953 GMT 9 Apr 84

[Text] Moscow April 9 TASS -- TASS special correspondents report from the international press centre:

The joint Soviet-Indian crew have crossed the equator of their space mission. The orbiting station "Salyut-7" has been aloft for 720 days. Its host crew, Leonid Kizim, Vladimir Solovyev and Oleg Atkov, are in their 61st, while the visiting crew of Yuri Malyshev, Gennadiy Strekalov and Indian researcher Cosmonaut Rakesh Sharma are in their 6th day in orbit.

These facts were cited at a press conference for Soviet and foreign newsmen today by shift flight director Georgiy Oganesyants.

He said the cosmonauts' interest in research is so high that, after getting the consent of the mission control centre, they began their day today, not with traditional breakfast, but with a remote-sensing of earth. Both crews photographed the Nicobar and the Laccadive Islands, the valley of the Ganges River, the Thar desert and the Himalayas as well as zones in the Soviet Far East, the Pamir Mountains and the spurs of the Tien Shan.

There was enough work to keep everyone busy. So, even the doctor of the main expedition, Oleg Atkov, took up a camera, leaving his medical equipment aside for some time.

But right after the photography session was completed, the entire crew again got down to medical experiments. Rakesh Sharma began a series of yoga exercises. It is planned to study their efficiency in preventing the adverse impact of zero gravity on the musculoskeletal system.

After that Yuriy Malyshev, Gennadiy Strekalov and Rakesh Sharma are to continue the "Vektor" experiment. The data collected during that experiment will help experts evaluate the level of the cardiac activity and tell them more about the adaptation of the cardio-vascular system. Leonid Kizim and Vladimir Solovyev are to estimate changes of the gas medium in different parts of the orbital complex and carry out microbiological investigations.

Answering questions about how the cosmonauts spend their leisure time, Oganesyants said that, among other things, they shoot a film about their joint flight, whose script was written down on earth. Together will film director Vladimir Sivkov and script-writer Vladimir Kapitanovskiy. They have now by right become co-authors of this picture made on the Soviet-Indian orbit of peace and friendship, which will be seen by millions of people in the Soviet Union and India as well as in other countries.

The film will become a striking document highlighting another stage in fruitful cooperation between the Soviet Union and the Republic of India in the interests of peace and progress.

BRIEFS

POLAR DRIFTING RESEARCH STATIONS -- Leningrad, 5 Apr (TASS) -- The Sever-36 long-distance air expedition has begun work under expedition leader (Sergey Kessel) to evacuate the Severnyy Polyus-25 drifting research station, which is 2,500 km away from the shores of Siberia. The Severnyy Polyus-25 station was set up 6 years ago on a gigantic iceberg north of Wrangel Island and has carried out its odyssey in little-known areas of the Arctic, passing near the so-called pole of relative inaccessibility and now apparently heading for the Canadian arctic archipelago. It was decided to evacuate the station because of the distance from supply bases and also because of the dangerous state of the iceberg, which cracks and fissures have reduced to a small surface barely large enough for an airstrip for light aircraft. An air link has also been successfully established with the Severnyy Polyus-25 drifting station, which is 1,300 km from the mainland. The research collective is being changed and supplies of fuel, food, and equipment delivered. [Summary] [Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1343 GMT 5 Apr 84 LD]

REPORTAGE ON 8 APR AIR DEFENSE FORCES DAY

Koldunov Interview

PM090949 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 8 Apr 84 First Edition p 2

["The Sentries of the Aerial Borders. Today Is Air Defense Forces Day" -- PRAVDA headline]

[Excerpts] On the eve of the holiday, twice Hero of the Soviet Union Marshal of Aviation A.I. Koldunov, deputy defense minister and commander in chief of Air Defense Forces, answered a PRAVDA correspondent's questions.

Question: What are the Air Defense Forces like today, and what are the main tasks being resolved by the new generation of defenders of the motherland's skies?

Answer: I would like to cite the words spoken by Comrade K.U. Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, in his speech to voters: "Let everyone know that no lovers of military adventures will succeed in catching us unawares, that no potential aggressor can hope to avoid a crushing retaliatory strike."

This is the goal to which the entire service of Soviet soldiers is subordinated, including, of course, the service of Air Defense Forces personnel. They are closely rallied around Lenin's party, and they unanimously approve and fully support its domestic and foreign policy.

The tasks of the Air Defense Forces is to reliably defend our people, our economic and administrative-political centers, and our troop groupings against airborne enemy attack. The special need for such defense in today's conditions is also dictated by the fact that the development of airborne and space-based means of attack is occupying an ever increasing place in the aggressive strategy of the United States and its allies.

Let me recall that the U.S. Armed Forces are currently building up the numbers of ground-, air-, and sea-based cruise missiles, new configurations of the F-15 interceptor fighter and the F-16 fighter-bomber, new types of military transport aircraft, the F/A-18 attack aircraft, and helicopters. Work on the deployment of space-based ABM defense systems is in full swing. The United States recently conducted the first test of the ASAT system of antisatellite missiles. The siting of the U.S. Pershing II and cruise missiles in a number of NATO states has considerably increased the war danger for the USSR and the socialist community countries.

All this has increased severalfold the Air Defense Forces' responsibility for the motherland's air borders. Thanks to the constant concern of the Communist Party and the Soviet Government and to the efforts made by scientists, engineers, and workers, today we have weapons enabling us to destroy successfully any of the existing means of airborne attack possessed by an aggressor.

Today the Air Defense Forces are armed with reliable means of missile attack warning. Our air defense's firepower is based on the antiaircraft rocket forces, armed with rocket complexes with high jamming resistance and which are effective in hitting airborne targets over a wide range of altitudes and speeds. Our forces' fighter aircraft are armed with first-rate airborne interception complexes incorporating powerful, highly accurate missiles. The radio engineering troops possess the latest electronic systems, capable of detecting airborne means of attack at any altitude and at great distances, thus providing reliable backup for the combat actions of the rocket forces and airmen. The automatic guidance systems allow the commanders and staffs to make efficient use of the combat potential of all categories of troops.

Let me make the following comparison: During the Great Patriotic War we had to use an average of more than 800 artillery shells or about 10,000 large-caliber machinegun bullets to bring down an enemy aircraft; now practically every rocket launch reaches its target.

Question: What are the qualities that must be possessed by someone dealing with such complex and awesome combat equipment?

Answer: Let us be frank: service is not easy for servicemen in the Air Defense Forces. Combat duty and constant combat readiness demand from both soldiers and officers the utmost coherence [sobrannost], great exertion of spiritual and physical energy, high standards of combat training, and psychological endurance.

These qualities are graphically demonstrated in our soldiers' daily military labor. Examples from comparatively recent history attest to their high readiness to fulfill their combat tasks: the destruction of the U.S. U-2 espionage aircraft 1 May 1960 and of the U.S. RC-47 reconnaissance aircraft which invaded the Polar skies [nebo zapolayrya] 1 July 1960, and the termination of the provocation organized by U.S. special services involving the South Korean aircraft 1 September 1983.

Koldunov, Others at Meeting

PM090921 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 7 Apr 84 Second Edition p 1

[Unattributed report: "Ceremonial Meeting in Moscow"]

[Text] A ceremonial meeting to mark Air Defense Forces Day was held 6 April at the Soviet Army Central Academy Theater. Representatives of the working people of the hero-city of Moscow, servicemen of the capital's garrison, and veterans of the Great Patriotic War and Air Defense Forces gathered here.

In the meeting presidium were I.F. Dmitriyev, chief of a CPSU Central Committee department; USSR Ministers O.D. Baklanov, E.K. Pervyshin, and P.S. Pleschakov; Army General A.A. Yepishev, chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate; USSR Deputy Defense Ministers Chief Marshal of Artillery V.F. Tolubko; Marshal of the Soviet Union V.I. Petrov, Marshal of Aviation A.I. Koldunov, Chief Marshal of Aviation P.S. Kutakhov, and Army General I.N. Shkadov; A.N. Soshnikov, CPSU Central Committee deputy department chief; Admiral of the Fleet G.M. Yegorov, chairman of the USSR DOSAAF Central Committee; Admiral A.I. Sorokin, first deputy chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate; Colonel General S.A. Bobylev, member of the Military Council and chief of the Political Directorate of the Air Defense Forces; Colonel General S.F. Romanov, chief of the Air Defense Forces Main Staff; marshals of the categories of troops, generals, admirals, officers, veterans of the Air Defense Forces, defense industry workers designers, and representatives of the Moscow public.

The ceremony was opened by L.A. Borisov, secretary of the Moscow Gorkom.

An honorary meeting presidium consisting of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo headed by Comrade K.U. Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, was elected with warm enthusiasm.

Hero of Socialist Labor V.M. Yasinovskiy, lathe operator at the Moscow machine-building plant and RSFSR Supreme Soviet deputy; D.A. Okhromiy, secretary of the Komsomol Central Committee; and Hero of Socialist Labor Doctor of Technical Sciences A.G. Basistov addressed greetings to the air defense servicemen.

The meeting was addressed by Marshal of Aviation A.I. Koldunov, commander in chief of the Air Defense Forces and USSR deputy defense minister. He assured the CPSU Central Committee, the Soviet Government, and the Soviet people that the air defense servicemen, in single formation with the personnel of the other branches of the Armed Forces and the armies of the Warsaw Pact countries, are always ready to defend the historic gains of socialism.

With great enthusiasm, those taking part in the meeting adopted a letter of greetings to the CPSU Central Committee and Comrade K.U. Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

A festive concert was held after the meeting.

Arctic Defense Tasks Reported

PM091118 [Editorial Report] Moscow TRUD in Russian on 7 April carries on page 3 a 1,500-word dispatch from "the Arctic Circle" by TRUD special correspondent Yu. Dmitriyev pegged to Air Defense Forces Day. The dispatch, entitled "Arctic Patrol," recounts conversations with personnel manning air defense facilities of unspecified locations in the Arctic. On the question of the need for vigilance Dmitriyev quotes an unnamed general as saying: "Spy planes belonging to the United States and its military allies appear particularly frequently near this sector of our northern border. Incidentally, this was reported in our press last September in connection with the major military-political provocation staged by the U.S. special services in sending the South Korean aircraft into Soviet airspace for intelligence purposes."

Dmitriyev describes a visit to a command center, a "realm of electronics and computers," where the lieutenant colonel in charge of a training session comments:

"If the enemy decides to violate the USSR's border, he will inevitably run up against the weapons of the Air Defense Forces. And he will suffer a fiasco, as was the case with the American U-2 spy planes destroyed by our troops near Sverdlovsk and the RC-47 destroyed in the Arctic skies."

Dmitriyev continues:

"Who is now roaming near our borders? First of all there is the American SR-71 strategic reconnaissance aircraft, which flies faster than the speed of sound and at an altitude of more than 20 km. There are the U.S. Air Force RC-135 spy planes. They usually fly from a U.S. air base in Britain, near the old town of Mildenhall. Tanker aircraft wait for them over the North Sea -- to ensure that they have enough fuel for the long journey. They are packed with electronic intelligence equipment. When they have almost reached the edge of our territorial waters they descend to a lower altitude and begin to make repeated passes. For about 40 minutes they twist and turn, they make a loop over the ocean, then they set off home. Their task, as American military observers openly admit without embarrassment, is to 'record the Soviet Air Force's electronic defense procedures and to find out the location of the Russians' radar stations and air defense bases, and also what the Soviet Air Defense Forces' reaction would be to an incursion by B-52 strategic bombers into the USSR's airspace...' Orion naval reconnaissance aircraft, various Phantoms, and even spiderlike yellow-bellied ship-borne helicopters constantly fly near our borders for similar unsavory purposes."

Dmitriyev concludes by describing a training scramble by interceptor pilots, commenting:

"This time it is a training target in the air. But the border guard pilots always need to be ready for a one-on-one encounter with a spy in the air. The spy, like a fat crow if it is an RC-135 bristling with sharp metal antennae and electronic detector panels (for radio eavesdropping and the interception of ground radar signals), cruises cautiously along our borders. He is afraid to violate them. He knows he would not escape with impunity."

Chesnokov Lauds Troops

LD072149 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 7 Apr 84

[Excerpts] Tomorrow is the country's Air Defense Forces Day. At our microphone is Yuriy Timofeyevich Chesnokov, colonel general of the Artillery and first deputy commander in chief of the Air Defense Forces.

In the center of the country and in the extreme north, in the deserts of the south and in the mountains of Pamir, in the west and in the east of the country, the soldiers of the Air Defense are vigilantly carrying out their service. At present there are effective means in the arsenal of Air Defense troops. Among these are supersonic, all-weather interceptors with powerful nuclear arms, as well as various anti-aircraft missile complexes capable of reliably hitting air targets within any range of their altitudes and flight speed, at great distance from the objects being defended and irrespective of the time of day, meteorological conditions and radio-electronic opposition.

Behind the indicator screems and at the control panels, and by the microphones and push buttons controlling the most complex fighting technology, our soldiers are continuously and vigilantly discharging their military duty and diligently learning to elicit from these mighty arms the maximum of their military capacities and to master the skill of being able to hit the enemy at specified distances with the first shot and launch. During the postwar years, they have more than once frustrated attempts by fighting planes of imperialist countries to invade Soviet air space. With an education based on the heroic traditions and examples of the fiery years, the present Air Defense soldiers, brave, strong and infinitely dedicated to their motherland, are the defenders of the Soviet sky. And I can report to you, dear comrades, that we are always on our guard, always in a state of high military readiness.

Maltsev Cites Capabilities

LD081234 [Editorial Report] Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 0800 GMT on 8 April carries a feature on Air Defense Day presented by Yakov Belitskiy, who introduces Air Colonel General Igor Mikhaylovich Maltsev, first deputy chief of the Main Staff of the Air Defense Forces. After reviewing the origin of Air Defense Day, Maltsev declares:

"This year, this festival is being marked in an atmosphere of a great political and labor upsurge, in which the working people of our country and the servicemen of the Army and Navy are implementing the plans of the fourth year of the 11th 5-Year Plan. The proclamation of the policy insuring the continued fulfillment of the tasks posed by the 216th CPSU Congress regarding further strengthening of the economic and defensive might of the USSR and implementation of the Leninist domestic and foreign policy of the Communist Party and the Soviet state has found a warm response in the hearts of the sentinels of the air borders. They are full of determination to fulfill the recommendations and directives contained in Comrade Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko's speech to voters."

Maltsev goes on to recount the glorious chronicle of the Air Defense Forces, following their formation by Lenin, through the years between the wars, and during the World War II. He continues:

"Thanks to the unceasing concern of the party and the Soviet Government, in the postwar years the Air Defense Forces, like all the Armed Forces, have been raised to a qualitively new level. They are equipped with powerful materiel and arms embodying the latest achievements of modern scientific and technical progress. The basis of the firepower of the Air Defense Forces is the anti-aircraft missile troops, armed with anti-aircraft missile complexes capable of destroying airborne targets at a wide range of heights and speeds and at great distances from the defended objectives, regardless of weather conditions or time of day. The missile-carrying aviation arm is equipped with supersonic and all-weather interceptor fighter aircraft fitted with powerful armaments and radar equipment. The radar complexes at the disposal of the Radio Engineering Forces permit successful execution of reconnaissance tasks and insure the combat operations of the anti-aircraft troops of the Air Defense Forces' aviation. The wide application of automated control systems and high-speed communication methods enables the fullest possible use to be made of the great combat potential of our weapons in the conditions of fast-moving and dynamic combat.

"The main strength of the Air Defense Forces is the remarkable Soviet serviceman, ideologically tempered, limitlessly devoted to the party and people, skilled in "handling the weapons entrusted to him and ready to fulfil his duty to the end." The overwhelming majority of officers have a higher education, and every year the number of servicemen qualified in combat skills increases, he adds. "Officers (Yeleyev), (Kostyulin), (Khromov), (Ivlev), (Serikov) and others may be included among the best commanders and political workers. For successes in combat and political training, many of them have been awarded state awards, amd Pilot-Inspector Colonel Zhukov has been honored with the lofty title Hero of the Soviet Union." He then says:

"Over recent years the composition of the Air Defense troops has changed at the level of sergeants and in the ranks. Up to 80 percent of the enlisted men and sergeants come to us with higher and secondary education; 90 percent of the Air Defense troops are Communists or Komsomol members. The Air Defense Forces are constantly at a high level of combat readiness.

"In peacetime, too, they execute a military task of state importance -- vigilantly protecting the air borders of our motherland. The defenders of the skies of the fatherland, as are all Soviet people, are profoundly aware of the reality of the danger of war. They also well understand that one cannot get peace from the capitalists by begging for it, it must be defended. Therefore the men of the Air Defense Forces relentlessly strengthen the combat preparedness of units and subdivisions, improve tactical and special training, and persistently master complex materiel and armaments.

"The Air Defense Forces are marking their traditional festival with fresh achievements in combat improvement. Their high level of political and combat activity and patriotic ardor are daily demonstrated in specific deeds in the results of the socialist competition widely launched among the troops under the motto: "Be alert, at constant combat readiness, in defense of the achievements of socialism." Maltsev then enumerates some of the leading units in socialist competition.

"Allow me warmly and heartily to congratulate all Soviet people, servicemen and veterans of the Air Defense Forces, and workers in the defense industry on Air Defense Forces Day. The service of the Air Defense Forces assure the Soviet people and their own Communist Party that they are constantly ready to fulfill with honor their sacred duty of reliably defending the historic achievements of socialism and peace. Congratulations, dear comrades!"

Moskvitelev Praises Service

PM091106 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 8 Apr 84 p 4

[Artilce by Colonel General of Aviation N. Moskvitelev, honored military airman of the USSR, under the rubric "Today Is Air Defense Forces Day": "Guarding the Motherland's Sky"]

[Excerpts] Today the Soviet people and their Armed Forces celebrate Air Defense Forces Day -- the traditional holiday marking the air defense servicemen's great services in the Great Patriotic War and their fulfillment of their especially important tasks in peacetime. This year the holiday is being celebrated in the atmosphere of the great political and labor upsurge with which the Soviet Union's working people and Army and Navy servicemen are implementing the party's plans.

Today, thanks to the daily concern of the party and state, our units are equipped with everything needed to reliably safeguard the motherland's air borders. Air defense units are equipped with all-weather supersonic fighter-interceptors armed with powerful missiles; modern, high-firepower SAM batteries with high strike accuracy against aerial targets; and radar stations allowing airborne means of attack to be detected at long range and at all altitudes.

Air defense servicemen ardently support and approve the Soviet state's peace initiatives and its persistent struggle for peace. But at the same time they are distinctly aware that the availibility to the United States and its allies of a large quantity of airborne means of attack, including new, high-precision weapons, air-launched, sea-launched, and ground-launched cruise missiles, intensifies the military threat to the Soviet Union. The words of Comrade K.U. Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, that "...we will continue to be concerned...to have sufficient resources to be able to cool the hotheads of belligerent adventurists" were perceived by Soviet servicemen with particular responsibility.

Air defense units and subunits are made up of highly trained officer cadres with profound knowledge, high ideological tempering, and excellent professional skills. The commanders of aviation, SAM, and radio engineering units have higher military and military specialist education. More literate and technically trained young people join the troops every year.

Consistent combat readiness is the law of the Air Defense Forces' life. The high level of this readiness is borne out by examples such as the destruction 1 May 1960 of the American U-2 spy plane and, 1 July 1960, of the U.S. RC-47 reconnaissance aircraft which had invaded the Polar skies, and the termination of the provocation prepared by the U.S. special services using the South Korean plane on the night of 31 August-1 September 1983.

All the multifaceted party political work in the units is aimed at achieving successes in combat training and at increasing our troops' combat readiness. The core of this is the education of servicemen in the spirit of ardent Soviet patriotism and socialist internationalism, pride in our multinational motherland, and constant readiness to defend the gains of socialism.